FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Five Nations Score U.S. Interest Rate Hike A 1
Socialist Meeting Rejects Mining of Ports A 1
Andean Parliament Condemns Terrorism, Interference A 1
Seminar Opens on Sea Resources, Development A 2

ARGENTINA

Alfonsin Issues Statement on U.S. Rate Increase B 1
Calls Increase 'Insanity' B 1
BONADE Chairman Scores Industrialist Countries B 2
Japanese Ambassador Cited on Foreign Debt [LA NACION 6 May] B 2
Official Reports on Discussions With British MP's [CLARIN 9 May] B 3
Labor Ministry, CGT Create Technical Commissions B 3
Labor Ministry Warns LA PRENSA To End Strike B 4
Railroad Workers 24-Hour Strike Affects 6 Lines B 4
Army Chief of Staff Leaves for South Korea B 4
GDR Deputy Minister Arrives, Discusses Visit B 4
Federal Judge Rejects Dismissal of Peron Case B 5
Bolivian Minister's Extradition Granted to U.S. B 5
Briefs: Radio Broadcasting Service Director B 5

BRAZIL

Former President Medici Grants Press Conference D 1
Critical of Direct Elections D 1
[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 7 May]
Figueiredo Reported Upset [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 8 May] D 3
Brizola Denies Support of Transition Government D 4
[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 8 May]
Figueiredo Says Candidates Agree To Withdraw D 5
Government Decries U.S. Interest Rate Hike D 5
Military Commanders Recall End of World War II D 6
[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 8 May]
Government Suspends Soybean Exports D 6
PETROBRAS Negotiating Extensive Trade Agreements D 7
Deal With Libya Sought [O GLOBO 4 May] D 7
Sales to Angola Discussed [O GLOBO 5 May] D 7

CHILE

Court Appoints Judge in Charges Against Pinochet E 1
8 'Agitators' Convicted for Slandering President E 1
Carabineros Carry Out Actions in Santiago E 1
Oust Squatters E 1
Raid Homes E 1
Army Proposes Alternate Antiterrorist Bill [EL MERCURIO 29 Apr] E 2

ECUADOR

Definitive Vote Count Scheduled for 15 May G 1
Febres Says Economic Crisis Main Obstacle G 1
Hopes for Coexistence [Buenos Aires LA NACION 8 May] G 2

PARAGUAY

Stroessner, Figueiredo Discussed Bilateral Issues [HOY 4 May] H 1
Laino Predicts End of Stroessner Regime H 1
ABC COLOR Journalists Doubt Newspaper Reopening H 2
Publisher on Suspension H 2

PERU

Army Command Denies Low Morale in Emergency Zone J 1
Shining Path Extremists Kill Eight in Ayacucho J 1
Municipal Elections To Be Held 11 November J 1

URUGUAY

Minister Denies Presidential Visit to Paraguay K 1
Blanco Party Rejects Government Charges K 1
Sanguinetti Says Human Rights Situation Improved K 2
Government Pressured on Prisoner's Death K 2
Rights Group on Disappearance of Bank Employee K 3
European Doctors on Political Prisoners' Health K 3

MEXICO

Soviet Ambassador Denounces U.S. Activities M 1
Yugoslav Diplomat Denounces Economic Order M 1
Briefs: New Oil-Related Enterprise M 1

PANAMA

Government Extends Ban on Carrying Weapons [LA PRENSA 9 May] N 1
Unofficial Voting Results Have Ardito Leading N 1
Board Recesses N 1
Two Circuits Report N 1
Results From 30 Circuits N 2
Circuit 1-2 Results N 2
Results Through 9 May N 2
Opposition Announces Public Recounting of Votes N 3
UNADE Candidates Hold News Conference 9 May N 3
Groups React to Electoral Situation, Violence N 5
Liberal Party Communique [MATUTINO 9 May] N 5
PNP Issues Statement [LA PRENSA 9 May] N 6
Opposition Threatens Strikes N 6
PRD Condemns Violence [MATUTINO 9 May] N 7
Party Members Said To Fire on Publishing Office [CRITICA 9 May] N 8
Correction to Opposition Alleges PRD Attacks N 8

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Monge, Government Protest Nicaraguan Communique P 1
Monge Scores Nicaraguan Propaganda Campaign P 2
Sandinists Deploying Armor, Troops to Border P 3
Preparations Advance for Meeting With D'Escoto P 3
Justice Minister Discusses Neutrality, Defense P 4

EL SALVADOR

Continuing Reportage on Presidential Election P 4
ESA Threatens Journalists P 4
ARENA Threatens Withdrawal P 5
D'Aubuisson Claims Victory P 6
FMLN Claims Disruption [Venceremos] P 6

HONDURAS

Text of Communique on Helicopter Incident P 7
Paz Barnica Says Nicaragua Relations 'Critical' P 8
Ambassador Withdrawn P 8

NICARAGUA

Honduran Explanation of Intrusion Rejected P 9
Ortega Decorates Soldier for Downing Helicopter P 9
Olympic Official Says Plan To Attend Games P 9

CUBA

Workers Volunteer To Replace Dead in Angola Q 1
Soviet Military Attache Marks Anniversary Q 1
Nordic Nations Forum Inaugurated in Havana Q 1
GDR Energy Inspection Official Completes Visit Q 1
Cienfuegos Selected for 26 July Celebration Q 2
U.S. Senate Said To Examine Death Squads, CIA Q 2
Costa Rica Reportedly Receiving U.S. Aid Q 2
Honduran Helicopter Downed Over Nicaragua Q 2
FDR's Ungo Cited on Salvadoran Elections Q 3
Clashes During Tallying of Panamanian Votes Q 3
De la Madrid Addresses Canadian Parliament Q 3
Commentary on Problems in Caribbean States Q 4
Violence, Union Unrest Reported in Peru Q 5
March 'Violently Dispersed' Q 5
Outlawed Uruguayan Criticizes Military Proposal Q 5
Uruguayan Minister on Presidential Elections Q 6
Uruguayan Opposition To Try To Repeal Measures Q 6
Commentary on Uruguayan Political Situation Q 6
Commentary on International Labor Day in L.A. Q 7

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Jorge Critical of Strike, Urges Dialogue R 1
Main Unions Militarized in Northwest Province R 1

Mexico's Oil Price Increase To Affect Nation R 2
[LISTIN DIARIO 2 May]
Italy's ENEL Signs Cooperation Agreement [LISTIN DIARIO 26 Apr] R 2

CARIBBEAN

GRENADA

Bishop Government Official Calls for Solidarity S 1
[Prague RUDE PRAVO 5 May]
Bishop Supporters' Newspaper Printing Blocked S 3

JAMAICA

Political Violence Claims 7 Lives in Kingston S 3
Security Minister on Foreign Exchange Leakage S 4

ST CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS

Briefs: New Indian High Commissioner S 4

OTHER COUNTRIES

BOLIVIA

COB Holds Meeting, Rejects Lechin's Resignation V 1

COLOMBIA

Betancur Appoints New Justice Minister V 1

FIVE NATIONS SCORE U.S. INTEREST RATE HIKE

PY100104 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2345 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 9 May (NA) -- Today, the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, and Colombia decided to express individually, based on the varying situations of their countries, their common concern over the impact that the U.S. increase in interest rates will have on the foreign debts of Latin American countries.

According to an unofficial report made at Government House tonight, President Alfonsin today held telephone conversations with the heads of state of the other four Latin American countries.

Today's coordinated reaction by the Latin American heads of state to the increase in interest rates ordered by the main U.S. banks shows that the Latin American countries with the highest foreign debts have adopted a tacit mechanism for adopting concerted actions.

SOCIALIST MEETING REJECTS MINING OF PORTS

PA081637 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] Lima -- A 2-day meeting of the Socialist International Committee for Latin America began yesterday in Lima and rejected the mining of Nicaraguan ports. It also expressed its support for that Central American country's struggle.

Alan Garcia, presidential candidate and secretary general of the Aprista Party of Peru, delivered the inaugural speech and advocated a negotiated solution to the Salvadoran conflict, which has caused so much bloodshed among the Salvadoran people.

The Peruvian leader scored the U.S. Government for mining Nicaraguan ports, its economic boycott against Nicaragua, and its disregard for the international court's ruling. He also held the U.S. Government responsible for Latin America's worsening economic situation.

ANDEAN PARLIAMENT CONDEMNS TERRORISM, INTERFERENCE

PY052150 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0802 GMT 5 May 84

[Text] Lima, 5 May (EFE) -- The Andean Parliament has condemned terrorism and interference in the region, and it has made a call for a struggle against the trafficking of drugs. The subregional organization concluded its fourth ordinary period of sessions yesterday in Lima. It held its last session in the salon of the Peruvian Senate. The session was presided over by Ricardo Monteagudo, a Peruvian, who was elected during the opening session.

There was a debate during the final session as to whether it was appropriate to approve in the current period of sessions a recommendation for the creation of the "Inter-Andean Defense Council" (CIAD) [Consejo Interandino de Defensa]. Peruvian Senator Edmundo Murrugarra requested that the approval of the recommendation be left for the next period of sessions of the Andean Parliament, and thus the national congresses of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru would have more time to study the recommendation. The request was approved.

The text of the recommendation that was not approved states: "Recommend the signatory countries of the Andean Pact to try to obtain as soon as possible a meeting of the representatives of their respective Armed Forces with the objective of creating the CIAD."

The objectives of the CIAD are to oversee the maintenance of peace and security in the area and to guarantee the defense of Andean sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Cooperation in regional development plans and instigating mutual cooperation regarding logistical training and assistance are also among the CIAD's objectives.

The recommendation also indicates that the Bolivian Government was to have started the coordination with the subregion's countries with an eye to implementing the recommendation.

A call to the governments of the Andean countries asking them to take action toward approving an agreement regarding the limitation of arms in Ibero-America was also approved.

The Andean Parliament also condemned every and any type of terror because it is "a flagrant violation of human rights and of fundamental freedom" and it declared that terrorism "is a crime against humanity."

It also condemned the interference that is being practiced in the area, an interference that violates the sovereignty of countries and which places international peace and security in danger, and the mining of the ports of Nicaragua "because it is an intolerable aggression."

The Andean Parliament has also urged the area's countries to promote the holding of a special meeting to seek an improvement in regional and world cooperation in the fight against the illegal production of drugs and the illegal trafficking and use of drugs.

It has reiterated its full support for the efforts that are being made by the Contadora Group in seeking an "overall and definitive" solution for Central America and it has agreed that its fifth period of ordinary sessions will be held in Bolivia at an as yet unknown date.

SEMINAR OPENS ON SEA RESOURCES, DEVELOPMENT

PY081446 Paris AFP in Spanish 0402 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 7 May (AFP) -- Academicians, scientisits, legal experts, and administrators from Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay today began a subregional Atlantic seminar on resources of the sea and development.

The seminar's discussions will deal with topics regarding regional and international cooperation in the use of oceans, access to and from the seas, freedom of transit for landlocked countries, and protection and preservation of the maritime environment.

Those who are participating in the seminar will also exchange ideas and information on the mining of sea beds and will discuss developing countries, the continental platform and its legal status, the solution to controversies regarding the Law of the Sea in the United Nations, and maritime scientific research.

The seminar, which is sponsored by ECLA and the UN Development Program, will end next Friday.

ALFONSIN ISSUES STATEMENT ON U.S. RATE INCREASE

PY100138 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 May 84

[Video showing presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez reading "text" of statement issued by President Raul Alfonsin -- recorded]

[Text] Interest rates have again increased on the U.S. financial market. The increase registered over the past 2 months implies that Argentina will have to pay an additional $600 million yearly in interest on its foreign debt. This amount is equivalent to the total amount of Argentine beef exports foreseen for this year.

The loss of economic resources caused by the increase in interest rates on the international market, which we do not control and to which we are bound by factors beyond our control, could exceed our capacity to pay our foreign debt, and compromises the country's future.

I reiterate once again the Argentine Government's decision to meet its foreign obligations. However, we will be able to attain this only within an ethical and just framework that will make it possible for us to attend to our own needs of peace, democracy, and development.

The tragic incidents that have occurred in other Latin American countries over the past few days are a cruel warning against the social and political consequences of events that originate in industrialized countries.

We recall that on 30 October 1983, all the country voted in favor of economic reactivation plans as the basis for the rebirth of a prostrated nation.

Being totally aware of my responsibility for conducting the nation in this difficult situation, I feel compelled to warn that this attitude by the international financial system compromises the country's economic reactivation program and its social peace.

Calls Increase 'Insanity'

PY100200 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 May 84

[Video showing Argentine President Raul Alfonsin speaking at the opening of the French machinery exhibition in the Palermo exhibition grounds in Buenos Aires -- recorded]

[Text] [in progress] ...high interest rates based on policies which benefit finance over production. It is worthwhile to mention this today in view of this exhibition which is a demonstration of the importance of production at a time when we are trying to achieve a democratic alliance with all national productive sectors.

Now that we mention interest rates, it is worthwhile talking about them, talking about what their increase means. We learned today that interest rates went up 1/? a percent. During approximately the last 2 months Argentina has seen its foreign debt increase about $600 million. It seems as though madness has taken over some financial centers, which have dropped a neutron bomb on the developing countries where men, women, and people in general are still living. The productive apparatus of the nation is being destroyed. We must put an end once and for all to this insanity.

The increase of interest rates we experienced this year results in a figure somewhat similar to the estimate for all our meat exports. Our answer to this is honest, responsible work, and willingness to fulfill our obligations within the framework of fairness and justice. The government will support production.

BONADE CHAIRMAN SCORES INDUSTRIALIST COUNTRIES

PY081205 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1201 GMT 7 May 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 7 May (NA) -- Mario Brodershon, chairman of the National Development Bank (BONADE), today stated that industrialist countries "are cornering" both Argentina and other Latin American countries by excessively increasing interest rates. Brodershon made this statement this morning at the Ezeiza International Airport upon his return from the United States where he met with officials from international financial organizations.

Brodershon said that an increase in interest rates of 1 point now, and another point by the end of the year, will raise the interest rates on the Argentine foreign debt by $800 million and that this makes any payment plan virtually impossible. He noted: "They are cornering us since it is impossible to continue increasing interest rates, to implement protectionist measures to avoid imports, and to subsidize exports as is done by industrialist countries."

Brodershon also rejected the idea that Argentina may liberate its exchange rate market because "this is not possible either here or in any other country in Latin America that has a foreign debt as high as that of Argentina."

Brodershon said that he was in Washington to discuss Argentina's specific situation with the Inter-American Development Bank, with the World Bank, and with international financial corporations.

JAPANESE AMBASSADOR CITED ON FOREIGN DEBT

PY081446 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 6 May 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Japanese Ambassador Senkuro Saiki's announcement that his country will give Argentina "money to pay 10 percent of its foreign debt," which he made in Mar del Plata when placing the cornerstone for the National School of Fishing which Japan will pay for, was a positive piece of news about foreign debt negotiations.

While the Japanese diplomat was saying that his country will supply Argentina with funds amounting to $4.5 billion, without specifying whether this will be done through loans or investments, reports were coming in about various statements concerning the status of Argentine negotiations with the IMF, and the Latin American Parliament issued a warning on the upheavals which the demands of the creditors could unleash.

[Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish on 7 May carried on page 11 the following report: "The Japanese Embassy yesterday explained that what the Japanese ambassador said in Mar del Plata on Saturday was that 'approximately 10 percent of Argentina's foreign debt is owed to Japanese creditors,' and denied that Japan 'had promised to supply an amount equivalent to this percentage' to Argentina.

"The misunderstanding arose from the speech of Japanese Ambassador Senkuro Saiki while launching the construction of the National School of Fishing in Mar del Plata which will be financed by Japan. 'Our ambassador explained in the course of his brief speech that our country is well-disposed to help Argentina achieve its economic recovery and development and he also mentioned that the same goodwill is felt toward the problems related to Argentina's foreign debt, which may have given rise to the misunderstanding,' a spokesman of the Japanese diplomatic mission said."]

OFFICIAL REPORTS ON DISCUSSIONS WITH BRITISH MP'S

PY091950 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 9 May 84 p 11

[Text] British lawmakers and Argentine congressmen have agreed that any future solution to the Malvinas issue "must take Argentina into account." This information was revealed yesterday by Jose Maria Llados, adviser to the defense minister, who returned from Maryland, United States, where he participated in a seminar on the southern archipelago together with British and Argentine parliamentarians.

Llados said that during the seminar the British made "very significant disclosures," and added that "on that occasion they explained that they have 28 options for a solution to the conflict, ranging from the outright restitution of the islands to Argentina, to the establishment of an independent state, or to the incorporation of the islands into British territory."

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Reynaldo Vanossi (UCR) [Radical Civic Union], chairman of the Institutional Affairs Committee; Deputy Jorge Connolly (PJ) [Justicialist Party], vice chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee; Jorge Aja Espil, chairman of the Argentine Council for International Relations; and professor Alberto Cisneros Lavayer. Great Britain was represented by MP's Cyrill Townsend (Conservative) and Bruce George (Labor), who were accompanied by Christopher Mitchell of the University of London.

Llados said that the British MP's emphasized the disagreement between the House of Commons and Margaret Thatcher's administration and explained that the British lawmakers had told him that the British position could become "more flexible."

LABOR MINISTRY, CGT CREATE TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS

PY091820 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1259 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 9 May (NA) -- Jorge Triaca, one of the four secretaries general of the CGT [General Labor Confederation], today revealed that this week the CGT will name its representatives to the organizations that were created last night during a meeting with the labor minister.

The immediate creation of a joint technical commission -- which will include union members and officials from the economic sector -- to establish the exact real value of the family basket, is among the agreements that were reached yesterday between the CGT and Labor Minister Casella.

Another of the commissions that will be immediately created will carry out a detailed observation of the behavior of prices in order to detect possible distortions in the market.

Triaca stressed that "these concrete results are due to the fact that we have a minister who does not lack perception and political capability to face problems, despite the fact that he strongly defends his positions." "Casella," Triaca explained, "is going to hold consultations about the possibility of creating these commissions, which we believe must operate as a prior step to the implementation of the labor-management committees that are established by law."

LABOR MINISTRY WARNS LA PRENSA TO END STRIKE

PY091815 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0310 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 May (TELAM) -- The Labor Ministry has warned the personnel of the newspaper LA PRENSA to end the strike they have been engaged in since Friday in demand for better salaries, and ordered the enterprise to abstain from disciplinary measures.

The warning was given by Rogelio Azzi, national director of the Labor Relations Department, during a meeting held this afternoon at the Labor Ministry Labor Relations Department at 26 Parana Street. Present at the meeting were representatives of the labor and management sectors who agreed to hold a new meeting tomorrow at 1600.

Azzi also requested the National Board of Labor Police and the National Sanitation and Security Board to investigate the violations reported by the newspaper personnel.

RAILROAD WORKERS 24-HOUR STRIKE AFFECTS 6 LINES

PY091345 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The 24-hour railroad strike began at midnight last night. The decision to strike had been made by the four railroad unions which group all railroad workers and was confirmed last night after a meeting held at the Labor Ministry's labor Relations Department. As a consequence of the strike, there will be no short-, medium-, or long-distance train services today. The strike affects the Mitre, San Martin, Belgrano, Urquiza, Roca, and Sarmiento lines.

ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF LEAVES FOR SOUTH KOREA

PY071940 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2345 GMT 5 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 May (DYN) -- General Jorge Arguindeguy, chief of the Army General Staff, left tonight for South Korea in his first visit abroad since he assumed his post.

Arguindeguy was accompanied by two aides: Lieutenant Colonels Britos and Gonzalez. The three, along with their wives, boarded Argentine Airlines flight 384 and took their seats in the first class section, after dodging reporters by riding in an automobile to the plane.

The flight makes stopovers in Los Angeles, Honolulu (Hawaii), and Seoul, returning via Tokyo and Rome.

GDR DEPUTY MINISTER ARRIVES, DISCUSSES VISIT

PY091520 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1318 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 May (TELAM) -- Deputy Foreign Minister Bernhard Neugebauer, who arrived in our country this morning, has stated that there is agreement between the GDR and Argentina in various sectors of mutual interest, and therefore he is very optimistic about the results of his planned exchange of ideas.

The official was met at Ezeiza International Airport by Elsa Kelly, San Martin Palace secretary for international relations and worship.

In comments to the press, Neugebauer said that he will ask the authorities about the objectives (of the Argentine nuclear plan), although it is the GDR's opinion that one priority of the plan is the peaceful use of nuclear power.

After highlighting the fact that the GDR highly regards the democratic process being carried out in Argentina, the German deputy minister commented that trade is one of the main areas that has a possibility for development. "I am sure that we will discover possibilities for increasing trade," he stressed.

Neugebauer, who will stay in our country until next Saturday, will meet tomorrow with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun, and Commerce Secretary Ricardo Campero.

FEDERAL JUDGE REJECTS DISMISSAL OF PERON CASE

PY092002 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1749 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 May (TELAM) -- Federal Judge Norbeto Angel Giletta today ruled as unconstitutional Decree No 1,301, dated 27 April 1984, by which the Argentine Government dropped its claims against the assets of former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron who had been found guilty of mismanagement of the Solidarity Crusade. The federal judge thus refused to approve the agreement signed by Hector Pedro Fassi, auditor general of the National Treasury, and Manuel Arauz Castex, Mrs Peron's trustee.

BOLIVIAN MINISTER'S EXTRADITION GRANTED TO U.S.

PY090100 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1954 GMT 8 May 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 8 May (DYN) -- The second federal court today granted to the United States the extradition of former Bolivian Interior Minister Colonel Luis Arce Gomez, retired, for his involvement in drug trafficking. The court also ordered the federal police to capture Arce Gomez, although it is presumed that he has already left the country, court sources reported.

Arce Gomez, charged with having protected drug traffickers who introduce drugs into the United States from Boliva, is wanted by a penal judge of Florida State.

The second federal court's decision to grant Arce Gomez' extradition is a hard blow to Federal Judge Jose Nicasio Dibur, who released the Bolivian military officer at the end of last year after rejecting the U.S. judge's extradition request.

The federal court's decision is signed by Justices Andres Jose D'Alessio, Guillermo A.C. Ledesma, and Jorge A. Valerga Araoz, and it orders the federal police headquarters to arrest Arce Gomez in order for him to be sent to the United States.

BRIEFS

RADIO BROADCASTING SERVICE DIRECTOR -- The executive branch has designated Florencino Rodriguez Cross as national director of the official radio broadcasting service. [Summary] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 26 Apr 84 PY]

FORMER PRESIDENT MEDICI GRANTS PRESS CONFERENCE

Critical of Direct Elections

PY092123 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 7 May 84 p 4

[Press conference by former President Emilio Medici on 5 May in Porto Alegre with unidentified reporters]

[Excerpts] [Question] How do you see the current political situation?

[Medici] I do not see anything. Now, if you ask me what I had seen up to 1974, then I can say something. But after 1974...

[Question] What do you think of the adoption of emergency measures?

[Medici] The president of the Republic must have reasons to decree these measures.

[Question] And regarding the rejection of the Dante de Oliveira amendment proposal, do you think direct elections now would be good for the country?

[Medici] I will repeat what I have said. I think direct elections are a joke, are they not?

[Question] Why a joke, Mr President?

[Medici] Because the government, the PDS [Social Democratic Party] having the majority and right to elect the president, how can it give it away to someone else?

[Question] Do you think indirect elections are better than direct elections for the country today?

[Medici] I do not know whether they are better or not. But they are in the Constitution.

[Question] Mr President, what is your opinion of that proposal?

[Medici] I do not have an opinion.

[Question] Do you support Deputy Maluf in the election for president?

[Medici] I do. Maluf is my friend. Andreazza is also my friend; he always visits me. But I am not a voter. There is no point in supporting them.

[Question] Have you not made up your mind yet? Your support is very important.

[Medici] No, there is no use in giving support. I am not a voter.

[Question] Mr President, do you think the Dante de Oliveira amendment proposal could have been rejected due to military pressure?

[Medici] You are asking me something that is not true. I cannot answer that. Pressure at this time? Do you think those rallies were held under pressure?

[Question] Do you think the military must have some kind of intervention in the political sector?

[Medici] They have never had an intervention. And do you think that the rallies held here in Rio Grande do Sul, which were by the government, were also held under pressure?

[Question] Why did you say after 1974...?

[Medici] I had been a revolutionary, I revolutionized the military academy. I participated in the Costa e Silva government and that of Castello, and I am responsible only for part of it. Now, from 1974 on, it is a different thing. Or is not a different thing? You can divide the revolution in two parts: from 1964 to 74, 10 years. And the following 10 years.

[Question] How do you define these following 10 years?

[Medici] I do not define.

[Question] What are the best years of the revolution, the first 10 years or the following 10?

[Medici] What do you think? What do you prefer? A 10 percent or 23 percent inflation rate? What do you prefer?

[Question] I would prefer that of 15 percent.

[Medici] Well, then, what do you prefer, full employment or three million unemployed persons?

[Question] Then, the revolution has not fulfilled its objectives?

[Medici] Up to my term in office, it had. What do you prefer, a debt of $12 billion or of $100 million? [as published] What do you prefer, you have to answer this. What do you prefer, a development of 11, 12, or 15 percent, or of zero percent?

[Question] Then you are against the current course of the revolution?

[Medici] I am not. I am for the course I have taken. And now I ask you: What is your position?

[Question] Mr President, is the revolutionary process now closed?

[Medici] Closed?

[Question] Yes.

[Medici] During my term, it was not.

[Question] And today?

[Medici] Today I do not know. Ask the current authorities.

[Question] Mr President, was today's debt generated only after 1974?

[Medici] Yes, because the debt totaled $12 billion and the reserves totaled $6 billion. Half of it.

[Question] What had happened to Brazil to increase that debt so much?

[Medici] You know that better than I. You are making questions for the sake of asking, but you know better than I.

[Question] Do you think the revolution has fulfilled its objective and is closed?

[Medici] Certainly it is.

[Question] Is it?

[Medici] Of course. They are going to hold an election now to elect a civilian. It has achieved its objective.

[Question] Then, has the 1964 revolution concluded?

[Medici] Yes.

[Question] Mr President, from the answers you gave on the revolutionary period after 1974, after the end of your government, you look like a politician of the opposition. You spoke about inflation, about the foreign debt, a number of problems that exist now. Are you completely opposed to the revolution after 1974?

[Medici] No. Each one governs according to his own thinking.

[Question] But do you think this is a wrong manner of governing?

[Medici] No. It is not. For him it is correct. How could it be wrong? For him it is correct. It is not wrong. Each one governs as he wants. Geisel governed as he wanted. And Figueiredo is governing according to what he wants.

[Question] If each one had governed according to their own ideas, who do you think was the best ruler?

[Medici] Well, they granted amnesty, did they not? And even for bandits, did they not? I would not. It is very serious for me to say this, but for bandits, for people who had taken up arms, I would not grant amnesty. But they did.

[Question] You said you would not have granted amnesty to bandits. Could you name some?

[Medici] No. You know I will not.

[Question] Would you name Brizola among them?

[Medici] Yes, I would, of course. Did he not take up arms? Did he not command guerrillas?

Figueiredo Reported Upset

PY092144 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 May 84 p 5

[Text] President Joao Figueiredo has regarded the criticism that former President Emilio Medici leveled in Porto Alegre against his administration as "a betrayal." However, Figueiredo believed that Medici was biased by Deputy Paulo Maluf, who had previously held a lengthy talk with Medici.

Although Presidential Spokesman Carlos Atila refused to make any comments on Medici's interview -- "the president has no comments to make" -- people who have free access to the president's office have reported that Figueiredo was quite upset.

"This was a blunder by Deputy Paulo Maluf, who now even runs the risk of facing an affront the next time he meets President Figueiredo," a presidential advisor said. The latter said that Maluf kept both options open, by publicly praising Figueiredo's administration, on one hand and, by privately attempting to please Medici, on the other hand.

The same presidential advisor recalled that President Figueiredo -- while he still was a newly promoted general -- worked together with Medici when the latter was the commander of the 3D Army in Rio Grande do Sul and was chosen to succeed Costa e Silva as president of the Republic. Figueiredo was immediately summoned to take over as chief of the military household. During the Geisel administration, Figueiredo was appointed to head the National Intelligence Service (SNI). Later on, Figueiredo himself assumed the post of president of the Republic.

The Medici interview was a matter that was discussed at length at the daily meeting that Figueiredo holds with the chiefs of the civilian and military households, Leitao de Abreu and Rubem Ludwing, respectively, the chief of the SNI Octavio de Medeiros, and the secretary of the National Security Council, Danilo Venturini. It was concluded that Maluf sought to stir up trouble between Figueiredo and Medici, but Planalto Palace [the president's office] adopted the stand of not commenting on the matter officially. Figueiredo believed that Maluf's plot backfired as long as such an attitude by the Sao Paulo deputy elicited a consensus among the other PDS candidates that the latter is seeking to mess up the succession process.

After he met with Leitao de Abreu, Senator Virgilio Tavora (PDS-CEARA State) commented that Medici's interview "was, to say the least, out of tune, and it would not be daring to say that the interview did nothing to help the efforts that are being made to reach an understanding." The president of the Chamber of Deputies, Deputy Flavio Marcilio, a supporter of Maluf's candidacy for the presidency, did not want to link the Medici interview to the meeting that Medici held with Maluf: "Maluf cannot stop the former president from talking," Marcilio said.

BRIZOLA DENIES SUPPORT OF TRANSITION GOVERNMENT

PY091820 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 May 84 p 4

[Excerpt] Rio de Janeiro -- Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola denied yesterday that he had come to an agreement with Sao Paulo Governor Franco Montoro to support a PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] candidate for a transition government in the next presidential succession period. "I only explained the PDT [Democratic Labor Party] plan that foresees direct elections now for a 2-year term. And since our party has no demands, we will support a single candidate for the opposition," Brizola stated.

The governor also denied that he had suggested Minas Gerais Governor Tancredo Neves as the ideal candidate for the transition government, because Neves' candidacy, as Brizola understands it, "is an internal problem of the PMDB." He also denied that he is hoping for elections in 1986 in order to become a candidate without having to step down from his post as state governor, as would be the case if there were an election now.

"This idea never entered our minds," Brizola stated. "If there is an agreement on the date, it will not prevent us from suggesting what we consider the best proposal. What we want for the 1986 elections is an agreement on the terms in office for all -- senators and deputies -- who must be elected simultaneously with the president, at the same historical moment, with the same commitments with the people. This would prevent a repetition of what happened with Janio Quadros and Joao Goulart.

FIGUEIREDO SAYS CANDIDATES AGREE TO WITHDRAW

PY092338 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] President Figueiredo wishes that the example given by Vice President Aureliano Chaves and Senator Marco Maciel, who agreed to withdraw their presidential candidacy, will be followed by Minister Mario Andreazza and Deputy Paulo Maluff in favor of a consensus for a fifth man.

Carlos Atila, spokesman for the Planalto Palace, explained that the man who gets a consensus could even be one of the current presidential candidates. However, Deputy Paulo Maluff reiterated today that he does not accept the idea of resigning his candidacy in favor of consensus for another man. He reaffirmed his willingness to fight at the PDS convention. He added that the idea of consensus is an imposition from the cabinet and that democracy entails a dispute among candidates.

GOVERNMENT DECRIES U.S. INTEREST RATE HIKE

PY100105 Brasila Domestic Service in Portugese 2200 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] After (?meeting) with Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, President Figueiredo has decided to release the following official note of the Brazilian Government concerning the increase in the U.S. interest rate:

The Brazilian Government has noted with concern the new increase in the U.S. interest rate, a fact that will considerably worsen the burden upon heavily indebted developing countries in the servicing of their foreign debt.

The increase in the interest rate is a factor that will disrupt the great adjustment effort made by the Brazilian people; an effort that has required sacrifice and a high spirit from all to cope with heavy socioeconomic burdens. The effects of the new increase in the interest rates will do away with a significant portion of the results obtained thus far in making adjustments and will in no way contribute to stimulating hopes for more promising days, which are essential in moments of difficulty and sacrifice.

Brazil and other developing Latin American countries have repeatedly given tangible demonstrations of their decision to honor their foreign commitments. The Brazilian Government trusts that the governments of creditor countries, in making economic decisions, will take into account the impact -- which can sometimes be quite serious -- they might have on the debtor countries and the ways to reduce this impact.

MILITARY COMMANDERS RECALL END OF WORLD WAR II

PY091705 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 May 84 p 5

[From the Brasilia agency]

[Text] In an Order of the Day commemorating Victory Day, Aeronautics Minister Delfim Jardim de Matos yesterday appealed for a constructive political dialogue, recalling that an impasse exists and, therefore, time must not be wasted on unessential matters. Moreover, he stated that everyone will have to give a little ground, because no one will have sufficient support to carry out the changes alone.

The minister said that the impasse "exists and will continue to exist at the level of ideas, if there is an attempt to sell, to a truly distressed people, the viability of a simple-minded democracy that begins and ends with the way a president is elected; a bandstand democracy in which the now is more important than the forever; or a crippled democracy in which greater value is given to the structure at the top than to the functioning and well-being of the social body that supports it."

Jardim de Matos stated that "now that the incident is over and emotions have quietened," reason must prevail. This reason, he explained, must inspire us in seeking solutions that are the victories of everyone and not of just a few.

Army Minister General Walter Pires, after recalling that communist totalitarianism was present on Victory Day as a "casual ally," stated that this is what we have to struggle against every day. "Those who believe that this is not true must not delude themselves," he stressed. He then emphasized that "the peaceful and progressive speeches of today hide the same purposes of yesterday, the same seeking of world hegemony, the same desire to destroy freedom, and the same plan to impose on men the sinister utopia of paradise on earth."

Navy Minister Alfredo Karam recalled the Navy's exploits during World War II and stressed that "we honored our commitments even if we had to pay a high price." He recalled that true patriots had carried out their duty "to the very end." He added: "We will continue along that patriotic path. It is what Brazil expects of us."

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS SOYBEAN EXPORTS

PY092000 Paris AFP in Spanish 1704 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 9 May (AFP) -- The Brazilian Government has decided to suspend exports of soybeans indefinitely in order to guarantee the domestic supply and help the struggle against inflation.

Encouraged by the international rise of the prices of this commodity, Brazilian soybean farmers have increased domestic soybean prices. The government has decided that this attitude of the farmers is harmful to the anti-inflationary struggle.

For approximately 40 days, the supermarkets of large Brazilian cities have been short of soybean oil, because the manufacturers prefer to export it.

PETROBRAS NEGOTIATING EXTENSIVE TRADE AGREEMENTS

Deal With Libya Sought

PY052345 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 May 84 p 18

[Text] Brazil is negotiating an extensive trade agreement with Libya that could involve the export of products and services valued at more than $500 million. Wagner Silva, executive vice president of PETROBRAS International Inc. (BRASPETRO), is coordinating the operation that includes:

1. The purchase of Libyan oil for refining and re-exporting, the same type of operation that is currently being carried out with Nigeria;

2. The sale of a platform for oil exploration;

3. An increase in BRASPETRO's participation in oil exploration in Libya; and

4. The export of large quantities of potable water.

PETROBRAS International Trade Inc. (INTERBRAS) is contacting Brazilian businessmen and the negotiations have the support of the Foreign Ministry.

In addition to the benefits that the agreement could involve with the income in foreign exchange -- in dollars -- one of PETROBRAS' objectives is that of reducing its ever-increasing idle capacity in petroleum refining.

The increase in the consumption of alcohol and the constant reduction in the sale of gasoline has generated an idle capacity that has only been slightly reduced by the recent agreement with Nigeria, PETROBRAS is currently refining 1,050 barrels of oil per day, of which 20 percent is Nigerian oil that is mostly re-exported.

Sales to Angola Discussed

PY052335 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 May 84 p 16

[Text] PETROBRAS is currently negotiating with Angola a special accord to buy petroleum and sell oil platforms and other equipment. This information was disclosed yesterday by Joel Mendes Renno, PETROBRAS production director, who also confirmed that contacts have been made with Libya for a similar contract.

Joel Mendes Renno revealed that PETROBRAS is conducting an aggressive export policy through its subsidiaries INTERBRAS and BRASPETRO and that large export "packages" will be announced shortly.

Discussing the domestic market, Joel Mendes Renno stated that during the seminar on naval equipment and parts scheduled to begin on Thursday in Rio, PETROBRAS will discuss with the industrialists means and ways to replace imports and increase the flow of orders toward national enterprises. He said that current oil production is 465,000 barrels per day and will probably reach 500,000 barrels per day in August.

COURT APPOINTS JUDGE IN CHARGES AGAINST PINOCHET

PY092105 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2035 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 9 May (EFE) -- The Santiago Appellate Court today appointed Appellate Judge Alberto Echavarria to carry out an investigation on charges submitted by 24 Chilean personalities against General Augusto Pinochet. Echavarria will take chage of the petition in which a group of important political leaders requested the investigation of the purchase of land by the chief of state.

According to the accusers, General Pinochet reportedly committed irregularities in the purchase and sale of land in the Melocoton sector near the Andes Mountains.

8 'AGITATORS' CONVICTED FOR SLANDERING PRESIDENT

PY100205 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 May 84

[Excerpt] Eight agitators charged with slandering President Pinochet have been sentenced to a 541-day prison term at the request of Punta Arenas Appellate Court prosecutor Juan Cepeda.

The measure affects Oilworkers Union President (Jose Luis Igoyo), Christian Democratic leader (Carlos Glaazin), and six other agitators. These people, along with approximately 30 other activists, caused an incident in front of the Punta Arenas Cathedral on 26 February while the head of state was presiding over a civilian-military ceremony in the main square of Punta Arenas.

CARABINEROS CARRY OUT ACTIONS IN SANTIAGO

Oust Squatters

PY092337 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 8 May 84

[Excerpt] Carabineros today violently prevented 600 families of squatters from occupying municipal lands in the Renca neighborhood. The incident occurred at about 0700 this morning when 600 families set up tents and hoisted flags at the Los Acacios and Dorsal greens. Less than 5 minutes later the area was surrounded by Carabineros, CNI [National Intelligence Center] and Investigative Police members.

According to an offical report, Carabineros asked the squatters to abandon the place but they refused to do so. However, the squatters reported that no sooner did Carabineros personnel get out of their buses than they started to throw tear gas bombs, fire shots, and attack the people with clubs to clear the area. Confusion reigned as the air was filled with tear gas smoke. The squatters escaped leaving behind their goods and even some children. According to eyewitnesses, in 5 minutes Carabineros had burned the tents, poles, and clothes left by the squatters.

The squatters sought refuge at the nearby (Huamachuco) Church, warning that they would stay there until their problem was resolved.

Raid Homes

PY092132 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] At least 20 people were arrested during house raids carried out by Carabineros in the Pudahuel suburb at dawn today. This report was made by sources at the Vicariate of Solidarity, where the detainees' families sought legal help to seek court injunctions.

The raids started shortly after 0100 this morning at El Montijo, Herminda de la Victoria, and Liberacion, located in Pudahuel.

Vicariate of Solidarity lawyers drew up a joint petition seeking a preventive injunction for those people who were reportedly also arrested during the raids but whose whereabouts are unknown thus afar.

ARMY PROPOSES ALTERNATE ANTITERRORIST BILL

PY090230 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 29 Apr 84 pp A 1, C 8

[Text] Substantial changes to the antiterrorist draft bill have been proposed in an alternate text that has been drafted by the IV Legislative Commission (Army), which is headed by Lt General Cesar Raul Benavides Escobar. The alternate draft has been approved by a joint commission made up of representatives from the four legislative commissions.

The original draft was submitted to the executive branch on 2 January 1984 for the urgent consideration of the government junta.

On 16 March, the legislative branch modified its original request and said the draft could be studied under normal priority precedence, but established that the IV commission must submit its report on the draft bill before 31 May.

The alternate text that has been approved by the joint commission makes important changes to the original draft bill, particularly regarding terrorist crimes and courts competent to try them. The new draft bill establishes that civilian courts will have competence in handling those cases originated by terrorist crimes, and those regulations and procedures established in the State Security Law will be enforced whenever trial proceedings are undertaken by request of government officials.

Terrorist Crimes

The alternate draft establishes in Article No 1 that terrorist crimes are committed in the following cases:

1. By those who make threats against the life or physical well-being of the president, his wife, and his immediate family.

2. Those who make attempts on the life or physical well-being of state ministers, state subsecretaries, senators, deputies, intendants, governors, mayors, Supreme Court and Appellate Court magistrates, prosecutors of those courts, judges, general comptroller of the Republic, archbishops, bishops, vicars general, provisors, vicars and capitular provicars, parish priests, and ministers of religious sects permitted to exist in the country, persons who are protected under the rules of international law, functionaries of the Armed Forces and public security, their spouses, descendants, and ascendants; attempts which can be presumed by their characteristics of circumstances to be committed against those persons because of the positions they hold.

3. Those who, in committing a crime of violence or intimidation, use arms or devices referred to in Article 3 of Law 17,798 on arms control.

4. Those who make attempts against an aircraft in flight or service; or who act in a way that may endanger the life, well-being, or health of the passengers or crew, such as:

a) any violent act against a person on board which can endanger the aircraft's safety;

b) detouring a plane from its route, changing its itinerary, or seizing the plane or control of it;

c) destroying an aircraft in service, damaging it to a point that it is unable to fly, or endangering its safety in flight;

d) destroying or damaging installations or services for air navigation, or hindering their operation through acts which endanger aircraft safety;

e) giving incorrect information knowingly, thus jeopardizing aircraft safety.

f) carrying unauthorized arms or substances that are explosive, flammable, asphyxiating, toxic, or corrosive, whether in solid, liquid, or gaseous form, and which can kill, injure, dissuade, or overcome resistance even if not used, unless, because of the low power or quantity of the substance, the personal record of the defendant, or the circumstances involved, it is obvious that there was no intention of causing the danger described in the first paragraph of this section.

For the purposes of this law, it will be understood that an aircraft is in flight or in service from the moment it is parked at the base, airport, or heliport and is ready to receive the crew until the moment it lands at the base, airport, or heliport of destination and is unloaded.

5. Those who commit one of the kidnapping crimes described in article 5 B of Law 12,927 on state security.

6. Those who place, throw, or use bombs, explosives, or incendiary devices of any kind which affect or can affect the well-being of persons or properties in public thoroughfares; leisure or recreation centers; educational institutions; churches; collective transportation or freight conveyances such as ships, planes, railroad cars, buses, school buses, workers buses; or places where people habitually gather, such as public or private buildings, residential places, industrial installations, or military or police premises. Areas duly delimited, vehicles, ships, and aircraft in which a military or police authority performs his duties are considered military or police premises.

7. Those who try to cause damage to any means of communication, dams, or other works of similar nature, or installations or elements for the operation of public service utilities.

8. Those who poison food, medicine, or water intended for the consumption of the population.

9. Those who with a revolutionary or subversive intent and through any means destroy, render useless, paralyze, or damage means of sea, air, or land transportation.

10. Those who send explosive letters or packages of any type which threaten the lives or physical integrity of others.

11. Those who associate or organize, and those who receive or provide instructions or training to commit any of the crimes referred to in this law.

12. Those who publicly instigate others to commit any of the crimes described in this law.

13. Those who praise terrorism, terrorist acts, or individuals participating in terrorist acts.

14. Those who impart or receive for terrorist ends, in the country or outside the country, instructions or training for the manufacture or use of bombs, explosives, or incendiary devices of any type, grenades, rockets, or any other device with offensive capability which can endanger the life, health, or physical integrity of persons or damage property.

15. Those who seriously threaten to commit the acts referred to in this article, thus actually or potentially creating commotion or fear among the population or a sector of the population or with the intent of imposing demands or forcing decisions from the authorities or any person.

16. Those who maliciously provoke commotion or serious fear among the population or a sector of it by spreading information regarding the preparation or execution of nonexistent terrorist plans.

Penalties

According to the degree of seriousness of the crimes, penalties will range from a minimum term of imprisonment to the death penalty. The accomplices will be punished with the same penalties as the perpetrators, and the same penalty reduced by one or two degrees will be applied to accessories after the fact. Penalties will be reduced for those terrorists who carry out actions tending to prevent or lessen the consequences of the crime, or who provide information that may help to prevent other terrorist acts or to arrest or discover those guilty of this type of crime. The alternate antiterrorist bill establishes that the thwarted or attempted crime will be punished with the same penalty as the consummated crime, permitting a reduction by one or two degrees in the case of attempted crimes. Conspiracy and intention will be punished the same as a consummated crime, with the penalty reduced by one or two degrees.

Protection to Informers

The authorities will withhold the identity of persons who denounce the plans and activities of others who intend to commit any of the crimes contemplated in this law. On the other hand, those who withhold useful information on such plans and activities will be punished, if only by a minimum term of imprisonment. Punishments will not apply to spouses, legitimate relatives by blood or marriage in direct and collateral lines up to the second degree, or to the parents and natural or illegitimate child of the indictee. The court may also withhold the statements and identity of witnessses, informers, or any other persons who attend the trial whenever the court believes that secrecy is beneficial for the success of the investigation, or whenever any of those persons asks for secrecy. In such cases, the court will open a confidential notebook to which the accused will have access, in case the contents of the notebook are to be used against him.

Article 10 of the alternate bill establishes that "the court actions stemming from the crimes provided for in this law will be initiated ex officio by the courts of justice, through the filing of an accusation or suit, according to the general rules."

The second paragraph of the same article says that legal action can also be initiated upon request or accusation by the interior minister, intendants, governors, or garrison commanders, and in this case, the provisions of the State Security Law will apply regarding court jurisdiction and procedures.

Investigation

The bill establishes the following special rules to expedite the investigation of this type of crime:

Article 11. The court can, through a well-founded resolution and whenever the investigation's need so requires, expand up to 10 days the period during which the accused is at its disposal, and it can also hold him incommunicado.

Article 12. The procedures ordered by the courts will be carried out by the forces of order and public security and the National Intelligence Center, jointly or separately, as dictated by the resolution.

Article 13. In the investigation of the crimes described in this law, and without disregarding general rules, the members of the forces of order and public security and the National Intelligence Center can make detentions upon order in writing from the interior minister, regional intendants, provincial governors, or garrison commanders, without need for a judicial warrant, but only in cases in which the request for such a warrant might jeopardize the success of the procedure, frustrate the arrest of presumed culprits and the search for and seizure of documentation and evidence existing at the site of the detention and which might be related to the crime under investigation.

The authority who had ordered the procedure referred to in the previous paragraph should, within 48 hours, notify the courts acting in the case of the arrests and searches made, and submit to the court the arrested persons and seized evidence.

The court, through a well-founded resolution, can expand that period up to 10 days under the conditions noted in Article 12.

Article 14. The authorities mentioned in Article 11 can request the interception, opening, or recording of communications and private documents, or the surveillance by whatever means of persons who are suspected of having committed or having prepared to commit terrorist crimes. The court that is hearing the case or has jurisdiction over the committed or planned crime will have to resolve such requests. The resolution shall be well-founded and dictated without the knowledge of the suspected persons, and it will not be subject to appeal. The measures can be in effect for a period not longer than 30 days, but can be extended for another equal period.

In cases of urgency, the measure can be ordered by the interior minister who must communicate it to the corresponding court in writing within the next 24 hours. The court, through a well-founded resolution, shall validate or invalidate the measure within 72 hours from the time the measure instituting the interception, opening, or recording of personal communications was ordered.

Lastly, the bill establishes that indictees in cases of terrorist crimes shall not be granted freedom on parole.

DEFINITIVE VOTE COUNT SCHEDULED FOR 15 MAY

PA091859 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] The Supreme Electoral Tribunal has resolved that the definitive count of votes cast during Sunday's runoff election will begin at 1800 on Tuesday, 15 May. The secretariat of the electoral organization will invite the leaders of the political parties that participated in the election, particularly the parties that comprised the political coalitions of the National Reconstruction Front and the Democratic Left.

In addition, Dr Fernando Enrique Parra, vice president of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, has announced that the organization has decided to instruct the provincial electoral tribunals that, beginning on Monday, they must proceed in accordance with the electoral law to sanction those citizens who did not vote, as well as those members of the boards in charge of receiving the votes who did not fulfill their responsibility after being obligatorily appointed to integrate these boards.

As the public already knows, in accordance with the unofficial data announced by the Electoral Informative Service organized by SENDIP, [National Secretariat for Public Information] and the various unions of professional journalists, a total of 2,912,565 votes have been counted. Of that total, Leon Febres Cordero obtained 1,365,121 votes, while his opponent, Dr Rodrigo Borja, obtained 1,267,611 votes. [all figures as heard] This gives the rightwing candidate a lead of 97,511 votes. Once the official results either confirm or alter these unofficial results, the new Ecuadoran president will be proclaimed.

FEBRES SAYS ECONOMIC CRISIS MAIN OBSTACLE

PA092021 Paris AFP in Spanish 1724 GMT 8 May 84

[By Rafael Urrejola]

[Excerpts] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 8 May (AFP) -- Ecuadoran president-elect Leon Febres Cordero has conceded that the economic crisis will be the main obstacle that his government will face and said that he will respect the presence of the IMF in the renegotiation of the country's $8-billion foreign debt. He added that he will try to refinance that debt under the best conditions and for longer terms.

In his first news conference after winning at the polls on Sunday, the leader of the rightist National Reconstruction Front (FRN), which is made up of six parties, maintained that he will rule for the 8 million Ecuadoreans, to whom he promised to devote his best efforts to preserve social peace and improve their standard of living. Febres Cordero does not believe that there will be any intelligent deputies who will oppose the social benefit bills he will send to congress, where the majority of the 71 seats were won in the January elections by center and leftist parties that oppose him.

Febres Cordero, who will be sworn in by current Christian Democratic President Osvaldo Hurtado on 10 August, today said that there is no room for hatred, vengeance, or defeat. He noted that he will rule with the best Ecuadoreans, trying to form a team that will even include some of his opponents.

He maintained that he will face the economic crisis with overall, congruent, and coherent measures, particularly those of a fiscal, monetary, financial, and credit nature.

In his opinion, the present system does not allow for a new devaluation, and he stated that he will try to avoid it through decentralization and the control of public spending and inflation. He announced that he will punish public and private dishonesty and will respect public employees who are honest and efficient.

He reiterated the need to promote trust in the country and said that after he won his victory became even more evident in the drop of the dollar, which went down to 88 sucres, its traditional rate of the past few months. It was 94 sucres per dollar a week before the elections. Febres Cordero will promote the intensive use of technology, which he maintained -- contrary to common belief -- results in the creation of jobs.

In conclusion, he stressed that he will make the slogan of his campaign to give "bread, roof, and jobs to all Ecuadoreans" a reality.

Hopes for Coexistence

PY091350 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 8 May 84 p 1

[Text] Ecuadoran president-elect Leon Febres Cordero has described the situation in his country as "very complex" and has said he will enforce an open economic policy, a freeze on public spending, and the refinancing of the foreign debt over the longest possible term. In a telephone conversation with LA NACION from his offices in Guayaquil, the winner of Sunday's elections said he believes the guerrillas should be repressed. He talked about the composition of his government, the leadership of which he will assume on 10 August, saying that politicians from other parties could be included in his administration.

The conversation was as follows:

[Unidentified reporter] How would you define your ideological position?

[Febres] As a man of the center. When one has to start a great undertaking one needs both arms: the left and the right. The misery of our people has no political shade.

[Reporter] Are you an anticommunist?

[Febres] I respect the positions of the extreme left, but I do not agree with them. Above all I will never agree with violent attitudes.

[Reporter] How do you assess the overall situation in Ecuador?

[Febres] It is very complex. We are experiencing a difficult economic situation and we are enduring an intolerable inflation rate. Our foreign debt totals $8 billion.

[Reporter] How do you plan to solve this situation?

[Febres] By producing more and by freezing public spending in real terms so that we may be able to curb inflation. I do not believe we can achieve an economic recovery by increasing public spending. This would only generate more inflation.

[Reporter] Do you favor a social market economy?

[Febres] The Ecuadoran Constitution establishes that the economy will be regulated by market mechanisms, and it is the president's duty to comply with these regulations.

[Reporter] How do you plan to renegotiate the foreign debt?

[Febres] We can only achieve a refinancing of our debt at the longest possible term if we submit a serious and viable economic reactivation plan.

[Reporter] What is your impression of the Central American situation and how do you believe it can be solved?

[Febres] It is a serious crisis, and the countries involved in it should be able to freely decide their own destiny, without the interference of foreign countries, whichever they may be.

[Reporter] Should there be negotiations with the guerrillas?

[Febres] We cannot let them get organized. We would respect human rights, and they would not. They must be repressed.

[Reporter] What will be the priority in your administration?

[Febres] To solve the problems that affect us day in and day out: food and employment.

[Reporter] Will you offer some government posts to members of the opposition?

[Febres] If they are willing to cooperate to achieve the well-being of the Ecuadoran people by trying to overcome the present crisis and if they postpone their electoral ambitions for 4 years -- which is the length of my term -- I will be delighted to do so.

[Reporter] How is Congress made up? Do you have the majority?

[Febres] It is still not known, but at any rate we hope we can coexist under the best of terms.

STROESSNER, FIGUEIREDO DISCUSSED BILATERAL ISSUES

PY041930 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 4 May 84 p 8

[Excerpts] President Alfredo Stroessner yesterday paid a "short and fruitful" visit to the city of Uberaba, Minas Gerais State, Brazil, where he had a chance to talk with his peer and friend, President Joao Baptista de Figueiredo. Although no details were furnished on what the two presidents discussed, it was learned from offical sources that the talks focused on various topics concerning bilateral relations. After a chat that lasted approximately 50 minutes, the two presidents were seen leaving with smiles and obvious signs of satisfaction, members of the Paraguayan entourage said. No official statement was issued concerning the concrete topic or topics dealt with by Stroessner and Figueiredo during their talks.

President Stroessner and his entourage returned at approximately 1530 by the same LAP [Paraguayan airlines] airplane, which was flown by General Raul Calbet with Staff Colonel Alcibiades Soto as copilot.

LAINO PREDICTS END OF STROESSNER REGIME

PY080218 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1446 GMT 6 May 84

[Excerpts] Resistencia, 6 May (TELAM) -- In a direct allusion to the Paraguayan regime headed by General Alfredo Stroessner, Jose Domingo Laino, leader of the Paraguayan Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], noted here today that for the past 30 years we have been witnessing the greatest state of terror in the Americas.

Laino said he believes that the Stroessner regime is about to end and that despite having commemorated its 30th anniversary of persecution and tyranny, the democratic winds that are blowing in Latin America are knocking at the doors of a Paraguay that is anxious to drink from the cup of freedom. He noted: The situation that resulted from the restoration of democracy in Argentina, the situation in Brazil, and what will happen in Chile and Uruguay will undoubtedly help. Laino noted that his main concern is to do away forever with the regime's ever-increasing repressive apparatus.

Asked about an eventual succession to the Paraguayan regime, Laino said: I do not want the dictator (Alfredo Stroessner) to die. I want him to leave power because the worst punishment that he can be subjected to is to see that the Paraguayan people can live in freedom and democracy. He added: [I want him] who for 30 years has denied the people the freedom to exercise their rights, who has tortured and unjustly punished them, to witness this. If he is able to witness this, he will suffer more than if he were to be killed.

He added that once the Stroessner regime falls nothing extraordinary will happen since the Paraguayan people will simply liberate themselves from fear, from the state of oppression, and will recover their freedoms. Laino noted: "I do not believe as many do that the people are not prepared for freedom. On the contrary, I believe that Paraguayans and Latin Americans are better prepared to live in freedom than in a dictatorship. Because dictatorships, whether they be from the East or the West, need a repressive apparatus, they need electric rods and torture rooms."

Laino said that in this regard, Argentina is a perfect example since once democracy was restored, military armored cars, policemen, and tear gas vanished. The people are undoubtedly happier. When Stroessner leaves, there will be no more electric rods or electric shock tubs since they will not be needed.

ABC COLOR JOURNALISTS DOUBT NEWSPAPER REOPENING

PY041353 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1522 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Clorinda, 3 May (TELAM) -- Paraguayan journalists Luis Alberto Mauro and Alfredo Seiferheld, editing secretary and political columnist, respectively, of the daily ABC COLOR of Asuncion, have expressed doubts that the Paraguayan newspaper will be reopened.

The two journalists made statements to the daily LA MANANA of Formosa after a meeting held in Clorinda with Domingo Laino, president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, who has been expelled from Paraguay. They said that the judicial actions filed have not yet yielded any results and that ABC COLOR has had to inform its 400 employees that it will not pay any more wages. Mauro said that over the past few days, ABC COLOR paid the April wages, but it will not pay those from May onward. This will leave 400 people jobless, although many of them have already found other jobs. Mauro also expressed his conviction that the purpose of closing ABC COLOR indefinitely is to silence the daily forever.

For his part, Alfredo Seiferheld, who also works as correspondent for the news agency ASSOCIATED PRESS in Asuncion, said that this is the first time that a newspaper has been closed indefinitely. He also disclosed that the IAPA [Inter-American Press Association] Freedom of the Press Commission will visit Paraguay shortly and that "the visit might have a positive impact."

Publisher on Suspension

PY091525 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1227 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpts] Resistencia, 9 May (DYN) -- Aldo Zuccolillo, publisher of the newspaper ABC COLOR in Paraguay, today stressed that Sabino Montanaro, the interior minister of that country, "has violated at least 20 articles of the Constitution" by suspending publication of the newspaper. Zuccolillo said that "we have been gagged by the rampant corruption that is an insult to our country," and he added that "corruption is currently the overlord in Paraguay."

The journalist made these statements to the morning newspaper NORTE, which is published in this provincial capital and which includes them in today's issue.

"Minister Sabino Montanaro has violated at least 20 articles of the Constitution by suspending us and I am quite sure that he is going to persist in maintaining the measure."

The publisher of the morning newspaper expressed his thanks for all that is being done by the Inter-American Press Association in trying to get his newspaper reopened, and he said that the organization will give the matter preferential treatment during its next meeting in Buenos Aires.

The journalist also stated that "ABC COLOR was never subversive" because "it never encouraged the violation of the nation's laws."

ARMY COMMAND DENIES LOW MORALE IN EMERGENCY ZONE

PY091700 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Through an official communique, the Army Command has denied reports in a Lima daily concerning alleged acts of indiscipline and low morale among the forces of order in the zone which has been declared in a state of emergency.

Here is official communique No 07-84:

In view of the disinformation campaign launched by a Lima daily, which has been reporting over th ast few days on presumed acts of indiscipline and low morale among the forces of order in the emergency zone, the Army Command hereby informs the citizenry of the following:

1) The reports disseminated are completely untrue, since the behavior of Army personnel, something which the Army Command is always concerned about, is absolutely normal, and the performance of the political-military command is not hampered in any way whatsoever by acts which are contrary to discipline or morale.

2) This is a solid truth, since the Army Command, conducting a program of visits to military garrisons -- a program that has been under way since February 1984 -- has just returned from the emergency zone and has duly verified that the situation is normal. Therefore, those media reports are bluntly denied.

Lima, 8 May 1984, Army Public Relations Office

SHINING PATH EXTREMISTS KILL EIGHT IN AYACUCHO

PY090330 Paris AFP in Spanish 0001 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpt] Lima, 9 May (AFP) -- It was reported this afternoon that today Shining Path extremists killed eight persons in Ayacucho Department, which will be visited tomorrow by Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel. This morning, in San Miguel, 90 km northeast of the city of Ayacucho, capital of Ayacucho Department, terrorists killed the deputy prefect of the town of Antabamba, while in Huanta, 50 km north of this capital, terrorists killed seven peasants. In Huanta, the settlers repelled the terrorists so fiercely that a column of extremists had to flee. The settlers captured seven extremists whom they decided should be handed over to the police instead of taking justice into their hands.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS TO BE HELD 11 NOVEMBER

PY091655 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] The government has called supplementary elections for mayors and aldermen of province and district councils throughout Peru for 11 November, as provided for in a paragrah of Article No 211 of the Constitution in force.

This call is made through a supreme decree that was published in the official gazette EL PERUANO. The gazette says that, as provided for by the law, the above-mentioned elections must be called by the president of the Republic 6 months in advance. Therefore, the supplementary municipal elections are to be held on the second Sunday of November 1984 so that the municipal councils can be installed on 1 January 1985.

MINISTER DENIES PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO PARAGUAY

PY081511 Paris AFP in Spanish 0425 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 7 May (AFP) -- Uruguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Maeso today denied that Uruguayan President Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez, retired, might make a visit to Paraguay by the middle of the month. In remarks to the press, Maeso stated that there is nothing to substantiate this speculation. He added: There were talks in this regard, but the invitation has not been made official, and consequently there has been no answer.

Alvarez' alleged trip to Paraguay has been insistently reported by the press of the two countries which has also referred to the forthcoming signing of several bilateral agreements.

BLANCO PARTY REJECTS GOVERNMENT CHARGES

PY092008 Paris AFP in Spanish 1221 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 9 May (AFP) -- The Executive Board of the Blanco Party has rejected the charge of seeking to destabilize the nation which the government and Armed Forces have hurled at it, terming the accusations foolhardy and surprising. The board also indicated that an attempt has been made to offend the party by false accusations and added that the government is to blame for any destabilization of the nation.

The Executive Board went on to warn the citizenry against allowing themselves to be deceived by the intentions of the military officers in power, because they are trying to exert a guiding influence on the coming elections with false statements.

The regime's charge was based on the severe criticism by Blanco Party leaders of the military plan to resume dialogue with the politicians and the decision of the Blanco Party to stage a referendum to abrogate institutional acts implemented by the regime, obtain a broad amnesty, and reform the Constitution. The government has stated that it will prevent any such plebiscite.

In this regard the Executive Board stressed its definite intention to participate directly in a huge popular movement for the immediate reinstatement of the state of law, a democracy without restrictions, political and labor freedom, and overall respect for human rights.

Although most members of the Blanco Party feel that the military proposal is unacceptable, the party indicated that it is willing to seek a minimum concensus within the multiparty group (to which the Colorado Party, the Civic Union, and the left-wing Broad Front also belong), in order to negotiate with the military representatives some of the proposed regulations.

The Executive Board of the Blanco Party indicated that the Uruguayan status quo is being disrupted by extremely severe events: attacks, attempted kidnappings, death of a citizen under dubious circumstances at a military unit, and an unprecedented wave of news media closures. The Blanco Party concluded by saying that it is up to the Armed Forces High Command to reestablish an atmosphere favorable to the reinstatement of democracy.

SANGUINETTI SAYS HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IMPROVED

PY090212 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpt] Dr Julio Maria Sanguinetti has stated that despite the objections made by some individuals, it is impossible to think that there will not be elections in Uruguay. The Colorado Party's secretary general thus answered a question put to him by an Italian journ list during a press conference in Rome.

Dr Sanguinetti asserted that the Colorado Party will continue within the multiparty group, adding that although the parties that make up this group maintain the same position, the strategies of the Colorado and Blanco Parties differ.

Sanguinetti said that the human rights situation in Uruguay has generally improved, although he said that some very distrubing events have taken place recently, such as the death of a doctor while he was being questioned at a barracks and attacks against a leftist newspaper.

GOVERNMENT PRESSURED ON PRISONER'S DEATH

WA101400 Rome IPS in English 8 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, May 8 (IPS) -- Uruguayan political, human rights, and labor groups are increasing demands that the military government provide a report on the April 15 death of a physician in a military jail.

The Armed Forces released a statement April 22 explaining that the prisoner, 35-year-old Vladimiro Roslik, died during "an interrogation as a result of a cardiac arrest."

Various organizations charge that Roslik died from being tortured.

Roslik was jailed after being arrested along with six students and a high school principal in Tacauramo, a city 210 miles north of Montevideo, the capital. Uruguayan Interior Minister Julio Cesar Rapela said the arrests were made in a wide-ranging government operation to rout "subversives who were giving indoctrination courses, giving classes in shooting practice, and manufacturing explosives." Police agents also searched a large area and made arrests in the City of San Javier, on Uruguay's western border with Argentina, as part of that operation, according to the minister.

The military government has carried out police campaigns to crack down on suspected leftist subversives periodically in the last 11 years of Army rule.

Last night, the Colorado Party, one of the three legal political parties, issued a statement joining other groups in demands for clarification on Roslik's death. The statement said that "more than 20 days after Dr Roslik's death in a military establishment where he was detained, and several days after obscure attacks on various people and property, the party reiterates its demand that the content of the autopsies carried out be made public."

"The only way to definitively clarify this event, which is of profound concern to Uruguayan public opinion, is to determine punishment for the responsibilities," the party statement added.

The Colorado Party demanded the "immediate release of those arrested in San Javier of court trials for them, which it said are long overdue under constitutional guidelines. The party statement also called for "complete clarification on the recent kidnapping of an innocent witness of a military operation carried out last week in downtown Montevideo, in which Interior Minister Julio Cesar Rapela has confirmed the participation of military personnel.

Leaders of the National Party met last night with Roslik's widow to express thier sympathies and promise that they will continue to press for clarification on Roslik's death.

RIGHTS GROUP ON DISAPPEARANCE OF BANK EMPLOYEE

PY081918 Paris AFP in Spanish 1505 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 8 May (AFP) -- The Uruguayan Human Rights Commission reported here today the detention of an employee of the state-owned Bank of the Republic by a group of unidentified persons on Sunday in Maldonade, 137 km east of Montevideo. According to the source, Jesus Alberto Gerfau Silveira, father of several children, had lived until 1980 in the town of San Javier, site of antisubversive military operations last month, as a result of which an Uruguayan doctor of Soviet descent, Vladimir Roslik, died in a garrison. The weekly JAQUE reported a few days ago that Roslik's death -- not yet officially explained despite three authopsies -- was caused by torture he sustained during his detention.

According to rumors, the bank employee has had no consistent political inclinations, although in the past he has been active in the Christian Democratic Party, currently proscribed for participating in the left-wing broad Front during the 1971 elections. Spokesman of the Human Rights Commission stated that they lack further details on the operation during which he was detained, and that no official report on the incident has so far been released. They added that the commission is making efforts to learn the whereabouts of Gerfau Silveira.

EUROPEAN DOCTORS ON POLITICAL PRISONERS' HEALTH

PY081549 Paris AFP in Spanish 1420 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 8 May (AFP) -- Three European doctors who have been sent here by political, human rights, and technical organizations have stated that of the 700 persons who are in prison for political or subversive reasons in Uruguay, 137 are affected by serious illnesses. The assertions of Marianne Wallach (Denmark), Luc Adrieaens (The Netherlands), and Leon Schwartenberg (France), were made to the weekly AQUI after they had contacted relatives of the prisoners and Uruguayan doctors and psychologists. The delegation arrived on 23 April and has tried in vain to meet with the authorities to obtain their viewpoints on the matter, but they have been told repeatedly that they were in Uruguay as tourists. The 3 doctors have asserted that in addition to the usual illnesses, there are 5 detainees with very serious chronic infections; 7 with serious neurological disturbances; 3 have their eyesight affected, 2 of them are nearly blind; 9 have asthma; 16 have heart and artery illnesses; 26 have digestive problems; 8 have very advanced cancer; 3 have spine problems; and 54 have psychological disturbances, including very serious cases of psychoses. The delegation has reported that it has the support of French psychiatric associations, the National Health Insitute of France, the International Association of Democratic and Catholic Legal Experts, the Union of Women of France, of deputies and senators, of human rights commissions, and of the wife of the president of France, Mrs Francois Mitterrand.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR DENOUNCES U.S. ACTIVITIES

FL091920 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1753 GMT 7 May 84

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 7 May (NOTIMEX) -- Soviet Ambassador to Mexico Rostislav Sergeyev said here today that as in the Inquisition, the United States is cruelly persecuting the ideology of the socialist countries because it believes they are attacking its culture.

Regarding U.S. Ambassador John Gavin's statement that the Cubans are puppets of the Soviet Union, Sergeyev only said that that was just one more sin in the soul of the U.S. diplomat.

The Soviet ambassador also referred to the mining of the Nicaraguan harbors and the burning of oil storage tanks, which he classified as a policy of state terrorism against the peoples of the nations.

Finally, Sergeyev said that Eden Pastora's assertion that he would accept aid from any source, including the Soviet Union, is just a demagogic and hypocritical statement because the counterrevolutionary forces receive U.S. support. Sergeyev stated that his country does not help counterrevolutionaries anywhere in the world.

YUGOSLAV DIPLOMAT DENOUNCES ECONOMIC ORDER

FL092338 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1935 GMT 7 May 84

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 7 May (NOTIMEX) -- Branko Vukusic, Yugoslav ambassador to Mexico [as received], has said that it is urgent to promote South-South economic cooperation so that the countries of the Third World increase their commercial and financial links with each other to put pressure on the usurious bankers, who only worry about their profits without seeking solutions to the international crisis.

Vukusic said that he considers the current international economic system to be obsolete because it only benefits one of the industrialized countries and no one else, in a clear reference to the United States.

In an interview with the daily UNOMASUNO, he denied that the solution was to destroy the existing economic system without creating anything to replace it, because the world needs an international monetary fund and a development bank -- but with totally different principles from the existing ones.

Referring to the IMF and the World Bank, he said that the financial entities of the old order had been ideologically and politically contaminated, although they are aware that they should promote development because money does not have a socialist, capitalist, or communist color.

BRIEFS

NEW OIL-RELATED ENTERPRISE -- Pemex director Mario Ramon Beteta has officially reported that Mexican Controlled Drilling Corp., Percomex [Perforaciones Controladas Mexicanas, S.A.], has been organized with an initial investment of $776,000. The new enterprise will manufacture equipment to control deviation of directional oil wells. It was also reported that the investment will increase by $2.5 million in 3 years. [Summary] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 2 May 84 p 9 PA]

GOVERNMENT EXTENDS BAN ON CARRYING WEAPONS

PA091522 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 May 84 p 12A

[Resolution No 284 issued by the Government and Justice Ministry in Panama City on 7 May]

[Text] The Government and Justice Ministry, considering:

That on the occasion of the recent electoral process, which is still in the vote-counting stage, serious disturbances have taken place in the last few hours, causing the loss of human lives and personal injuries;

That partisan groups have met to pressure the National Vote Counting Board and to influence the decisions it must make;

That it is necessary to guarantee and preserve the public order so that the result of the vote-counting process that is currently under way is not altered in any way;

Resolves:

To extend the validity of Resolution No 271 of 30 April 1984, "which suspends the authorization to carry weapons during the election days or the electoral periods" until the current situation returns to normal.

To reiterate to the appropriate authorities that they must enforce fulfillment of this resolution and give the necessary cooperation and support to the Vote Counting Boards and the electoral authorities so that peace and tranquillity among the citizens is maintained at all times.

Government and Justice Minister,
Rodolfo Chiari De Leon

UNOFFICIAL VOTING RESULTS HAVE ARDITO LEADING

Board Recesses

PA100235 [Editorial Report] Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 0213 GMT on 9 May carried the following unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections following the counting of 33 of the 40 Electoral Circuits:

Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	158,446
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	135,928
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	6,394
Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	5,875
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	2,381
Carlos Del Cid	People's Party	1,833
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	957

Presumably, this count does not include the nine circuit results which have been challenged. Following the reading of these results, the Vote Counting Board reported that it was going into recess until the morning of 10 May.

Two Circuits Report

PA092224 [Editorial Report] Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 2123 and 2143 GMT on 9 May 84 carried the following unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections in Circuits 8-7 and 2-3, respectively.

8-7: Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	18,216
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	18,287
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	1,335
Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	1,264
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	304
Carlos Del Cid	People's Party	324
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	123

2-3: Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	5,721
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	5,370
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	45
Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	91
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	35
Carlos Del Cid	People's Party	22
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	75

Results From 30 Circuits

PA092338 [Editorial Report] Panama City Domestic Television Network in Spanish at 2308 GMT on 9 May carried unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections from 30 Electoral Circuits. The figures given are 220,036 votes for UNADE candidate Nicolas Ardito Barletta and 200,105 votes for ADO candidate Arnulfo Arias Madrid.

Circuit 1-2 Results

PA100028 [Editorial Report] Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 2352 GMT on 9 May carried the following unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections in Circuit 1-2:

Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	1,524
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	1,444
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	21
Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	0
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	20
Carlos Del Cid	People's Party	11
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	3

Results Through 9 May

PA100500 [Editorial Report] Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish at 0454 GMT on 10 May carried a "last-minute" report giving unofficial election results, citing the UNADE computation center, which claims they encompass 39 of the 40 electoral circuits. The results are as follows: UNADE, 299,518 votes, ADO 295,677. According to UNADE, Electoral Circuit 9-2 in Sona, La Mesa, is the only circuit left to be counted.

OPPOSITION ANNOUNCES PUBLIC RECOUNTING OF VOTES

PA101230 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0722 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Panama City, 10 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADO) this afternoon announced that it will begin counting the votes listed in the tally sheets prepared at each voting place, without excluding any of them. The vote-counting process will be open to the public. The ADO, which is made up of the Authentic Panamenist Party (PPA), the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), and the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement (MOLIRENA), endorses the presidential candidacy of Arnulfo Arias Madrid in last Sunday's general elections.

According to a communique released by ADO in this capital, the National Vote Counting Board refuses to count the presidential votes on the basis of the tally sheets prepared at each polling place and instead wants to take into account only those prepared by the Vote Counting Boards of the 40 electoral precincts.

According to the ADO, the tally sheets in its possession, which were prepared at the voting places, demonstrate "indubitably" that Arias Madrid obtained a lead that withstands and exceeds all the allegedly unfavorable results.

Further on, the ADO communique indicates that the opposition alliance has unsuccessfully tried to reach an agreement with the official candidate's representatives in order to speed up the recounting of the votes. The other favorite candidate for winning the presidential elections is Nicolas Ardito Barletta, who is backed by the National Democratic Union (UNADE), composed of six progovernment parties.

UNADE CANDIDATES HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE 9 MAY

PA100516 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0245 GMT 10 May 84

[News conference held by candidates of the National Democratic Union, UNADE, Nicolas Ardito Barlett for president, Eric Arturo Delvalle for first vice president, and Roderick Esquivel for second vice president "in the afternoon" of 9 May with unidentified reporters; place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Ardito] Since early Monday morning, the preliminary information we had was that the elections would be much closer than any group had expected. We know that the main opposition group thought it would win by a wide margin. We also thought we would win by a wide margin, but the results by early Monday morning, based on the preliminary information, reflected a close race. However, the preliminary information we had then, which expanded little by little yesterday, indicated that we were winning by a slight margin. For this reason we made a call for good sense, calm, and patience on Monday and urged the National Vote Counting Board to speed up as much as possible the official tally of the votes so the country could learn the final results.

Regrettably -- and several of you were here -- the emotion prevailing at that moment and the fact that several groups mobilized toward the place at which the National Vote Counting Board was meeting provoked the extremely deplorable incidents which occurred on Monday night. We deplored them and, insofar as we were concerned, took steps to avert a repetition of the incidents in the future.

We are pleased because the National Vote Counting Board is making fast progress with the official vote tally, and we hope that they will be able to reach the end of the count in a short time so the new president can be officially announced.

[Question indistinct]

[Ardito] According to our estimates, we now have a lead of between 5,000 and 8,000 votes for our candidacy. However, we do not have all of the figures yet, and what we have been trying to do is get the pollwatchers of our parties, who are still working in several provinces, to cooperate as much as possible so the official circuit tally sheets can be drawn up and sent to the National Vote Counting Board and the official vote count can be completed.

[Question indistinct]

[Ardito] In such a close race, of course, in which the winner wins by a small margin, slightly less than half of Panamanians differed from our views. For this reason, what I have said is that I will be president of all Panamanians and that I will take very much into consideration the feelings of the voters who did not side with us and that I will reaffirm what I said emphatically during our campaign: I will conduct a government of national reconciliation.

[Question indistinct]

[Ardito] Yes. I suppose you are all familiar with the information. However, Eric Arturo Delvalle, who has been following this more closely on our behalf, tells me that in 30 out of 40 circuits we have a lead of 15,600 votes.

[Question indistinct]

[Ardito] Look, I think that the fundamental thing is that we abide by the letter and spirit of our Constitution and laws; that we permit the National Vote Counting Board to complete the vote count as rapidly as possible; that all of us Panamanian citizens accept the results and that all of us set to work together. I see no danger of a coup d'etat under these circumstances.

[Question indistinct]

[Ardito] I repeat that at the time this happened I felt that the acts of violence that took place were totally deplorable, inexcusable, and unacceptable. You may rest totally assured that this was unknown to us or to the authorities of the parties comprising the National Democratic Union, and that as soon as we learned of these events, we held an urgent meeting on Monday night and took immediate steps to establish the necessary controls over our groups so this would not happen again.

It is apparent from the information I have received, the television tapes I have seen, and some photographs, that it will be difficult to determine who was directly responsible for starting the violence; that definitely all groups participated in it; and that the two sides had weapons. This is altogether regrettable.

We admit that at the time the violence took place there were representatives of all of the political groups there. They were haranguing each other. It is difficult to determine who started the beatings, the fistfights, and finally the shooting. To the extent that the photographs show that members of the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] took part in it, we have taken steps to discipline them for their involvement. We have asked for a full investigation and have asked that the guilty parties be arrested and punished according to the law.

[Reporter] Mr Barletta, have you had any contact with the U.S. Embassy [passage indistinct]?

[Ardito] I have held conversations with the U.S. ambassador on a couple of occasions. He has called us, and I have called him. We were personal friends before he became ambassador in Panama. However, we have talked on a strictly informative level, nothing more.

[Reporter] Dr Barletta, it has been reported that there were many armed men with special rifles. Is this normal in Panamanian politics?

[Ardito] Believe me, no one regrets what happened Monday night more than we. At noon on Monday we were appealing to the country to prevent such incidents. Throughout Monday morning we made the appeal in several broadcasts. One was at a news conference like this, where several of you were present. On Monday afternoon we were concerned by the opposition group's attitude of calling on the people to go into the streets, to go to the Legislative Palace where the Vote Counting Board was working, to fill up the galleries inside the palace. All this was being broadcast on radio and sometimes on television.

GROUPS REACT TO ELECTORAL SITUATION, VIOLENCE

Liberal Party Communique

PA091913 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 9 May 84 pp 1 A, 8 A

[Communique issued by the Liberal Party, dated in Panama City on 7 May; words in uppercase as published]

[Text] The LIBERAL PARTY, due to the provocations against the electoral organizations' responsible stance, and due to the open instigations aimed at starting a rebellion against the vote-counting results -- which were systematically made on 7 May during the morning hours by Christian DEMOCRATIC PARTY President Ricardo Arias Calderon -- considers it appropriate to state the following:

1. The use of radio broadcasts and frequencies to report false or unofficial figures, which are not directly authorized by official organizations, is a clear violation of the Electoral Code and Regulations.

2. Wise people should remain alert, to reject and condemn as they have done so far, any call issued by well known political groups which advocates a climate of unrest in the country.

3. We feel absolutely certain of the patriotism and honesty of the Panamanians who comprise the vote counting commissions appointed by the Electoral Tribunal, with the agreement of all the national political parties, and we shall remain serene and calm, waiting for the results of the 6 May elections.

4. We urge the Electoral Tribunal to apply, with its usual strictness, the corresponding sanctions to all the news media which contribute to misinform and provoke situations which endanger our democracy and social peace.

PNP Issues Statement

PA091501 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 May 84 p 10 A

["Declaration" issued by the Popular Nationalist Party, PNP, no date or place given]

[Text] In view of the regrettable incidents that have taken place in connection with the counting of the votes for president, the PNP deems it necessary to issue the following declaration:

1. The national understanding that the party has maintained as its electoral thesis since early 1983 has sought, among other objectives, to prevent confrontations among the Panamanian people.

2. The electoral polarization that has prevailed was the path chosen by our people. In the face of it, the PNP has always maintained and continues to maintain its own, independent position.

3. We categorically regret the bloody incidents that occurred in the afternoon and evening of 7 May, and hope they are not repeated.

4. In order to achieve public tranquillity and collective peace, it is necessary for the National Vote Counting Board to finish recounting the presidential votes without delay and for the electoral victory of whoever obtained it legitimately to be acknowledged.

5. The PNP thanks the popular sectors that gave it their electoral support for that effort, which today allows us to maintain our political standing as an expression of the youthful sector of Panamanian society. Whether in the near or distant future, we will know how to respond to that commitment.

Olimpo Saez, Party President

Opposition Threatens Strikes

PA092000 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1906 GMT 9 May 84

[By Mark Baillie]

[Text] Panama City, 9 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Panamanian opposition today threatened to unleash a wave of strikes and street protests if the official candidate is declared the winner in last Sunday's presidential elections.

The confusion continues regarding the election results after electoral officials said that only 9 of the 40 precincts of the country have been counted.

They said that the tally thus far shows that Nicolas Ardito Barletta, the official candidate supported by the powerful National Guard, is leading. His principal opponent, Arnulfo Arias, 83, has said that he is ahead in the vote count of the first presidential election held in 16 years, while his supporters have rejected the vote count, terming it fraudulent.

Christian Democratic Party leader Ramon Lima said that the opposition would call strikes and street protests if Barletta wins.

The vote count was renewed today and electoral officials said that they will announce preliminary results in the coming hours.

President Jorge Illueca blamed the violence which resulted in the death of one person and 41 wounded on the delay in the vote count. Witnesses said that Juan Angel Gutierrez, 29, was killed Monday when civilians wearing the colors of the officialist Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) opened fire on the crowd of opposition supporters who were awaiting the results of the vote count in front of the Legislative Palace. Television cameras filmed the shooting and the newsmen saw the PRD men mingling later with national guardsmen. The Panamanian press, controlled by the government, has accused the opposition of initiating the fight.

PRD Condemns Violence

PA092002 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 9 May 84 p 8 A

[Communique issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD, National Executive Committee in Panama City on 8 May]

[Text] The celebration of the great people's victory on 6 May was dramatically overshadowed by the violent acts that certain groups provoked around the Justo Arosemena National Palace. Beginning in the early morning hours these groups organized and exerted pressure on the National Vote Counting Board in an attempt to distort its work. The groups also insistently provoked and attacked PRD and UNADE [National Democratic Alliance] sympathizers, as well as citizens who were interested in following the normal vote-counting activities.

Politicians who insist on inciting their followers to revenge and retaliations, advocating the Panamanian family's division, are once more responsible for these condemnable acts. Even prior to the elections, the PRD and several news media denounced these groups' plans, because due to their imminent defeat they had been preparing this type of action to tarnish and discredit the electoral process.

The PRD once again instructs its membership to disregard these groups' provocations and to avoid confrontations, and to cooperate in the maintenance of public tranquillity. The party likewise warns that it will never be intimidated or give up its right to defend and celebrate this victory, which belongs to all the people. Also, the PRD demands that the competent authorities adopt the appropriate legal measures to preserve the citizens' peace, and to ascertain the responsibilities of those who organized or carried out this painful incident. We deplore the tragedy that has taken place, and we send our heartfelt condolences to the relatives and friends of the young Panamanian who lost his life. We condemn the acts of coercion, threats, and violence perpetrated by those who have been defeated, and we issue a call to the PRD and UNADE members and sympathizers to celebrate this victory in a fraternal way with all the people, and let there be no winners or losers.

For the National Executive Committee:

Berta Torrijos de Arosemena, President

Jorge Abadia Arias, Secretary General

PARTY MEMBERS SAID TO FIRE ON PUBLISHING OFFICE

PA091727 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 9 May 84 pp 1, 15

[Text] Following a campaign of phone threats and anonymous insulting messages, members of the Authentic Panamenist Party and the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, attacked the facilities of the Renovacion Publishing Company, Inc, (ERSA) early this morning, in an unusual act of violence. The attack occurred exactly at 0104.

The Facts

Only a few minutes after ERSA General Manager Carlos Garcia had left the main offices, members of the Authentic Panamenist Party and the PDC arrived in a dark colored van. They stopped in front of the building, came out of the van holding guns, and fired at the offices. The bullets penetrated the main door and entered the visitor's waiting room and the working area.

In Danger

The shots created panic among the journalists and the rest of the workers who were inside the building, and at least three of the professionals in charge of reviewing press reports panicked. One of them, Eneida de Smith, hurt herself when she threw herself to the floor after hearing the gunfire.

Previous Presence

Workers reported that a few minutes before the attack a small column of motorcycles with PDC flags had slowed down in a threatening manner when they passed in front of our offices. In the past few days, members of opposition parties in motorcades had been provoking ERSA journalists and workers. In addition, our office had received frequent anonymous notes and phone calls warning about future attacks. Early today, after the vile attack, we received additional calls, stating that this would not be the only attack.

Call for Good Sense

ERSA General Manager Carlos Garcia immediately condemned the incident, describing it as an attack against freedom of expression, and at the same time called for good sense and peace in the country, urging us to reject violence.

CORRECTION TO OPPOSITION ALLEGES PRD ATTACKS

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Opposition Alleges PRD Attacks on Members" published in the 2 May Latin America DAILY REPORT on page N 1. Second paragraph, line three should read ...the MOLIRENA [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement]. As a ...(correcting expansion to include "Liberal" and deleting "Democratic")

COSTA RICA

MONGE, GOVERNMENT PROTEST NICARAGUAN COMMUNIQUE

PA100135 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Costa Rica has lodged a new protest with Nicaragua over an offense. The Costa Rican Government has again strongly protested to the Sandinist regime over what it feels is a seriously offensive communique that was published in local newspapers. The communique is not only false, but represents a serious offense to the Costa Rican people and Government. Therefore, immediate satisfaction has been demanded.

In addition, the Costa Rican Government feels that this attitude has a negative impact on the Costa Rican Government's desire to attain conditions permitting both governments to maintain correct relations befitting two neighboring countries and states with historical brotherly ties.

The publication of the communique, which raises serious charges against the Costa Rican Government, has been described as an abuse of the freedom of expression practiced in a democratic system like the one the Costa Rican people have given to themselves through their own free will.

The note, sent yesterday by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez to his Sandinist counterpart, Miguel D'Escoto, states that the Costa Rican Government has learned with indignation about the false statements contained in the communique, which are part of the misinformation campaign the Nicaraguan Government has launched against Costa Rica and the attitude of hostility that Costa Rica has repeatedly noted.

The attitude of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction once more leaves in question statements by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Government Junta, in his note of 6 April to President Luis Alberto Monge, Foreign Minister Gutierrez asserts. At that time, Ortega expressed to President Monge the Nicaraguan Government's desire and intention to maintain and develop relations of utmost friendship and cooperation with the Costa Rican people and Government.

Gutierrez stressed that this is a new demonstration of the ambiguity that President Monge cited in his note to Ortega of 27 March.

President Monge was questioned at the end of a ceremony in San Rafael de Ojo de Agua to unveil a bust of former President Francisco Orlich. There has been a constant repetition of these actions, which are part of the strategy against our country. I have denounced them and hope that the Costa Rican people will keep them clearly in mind, Monge said.

The strategy of Nicaraguan Government officials is aimed at proving to the world that Costa Rica is a satellite of Washington; that our country is not independent; and that is it a launching pad for military actions against Nicaragua. We have [word indistinct] and corrected this tactic used by the Nicaraguan Government officials as far as possible, but they have persisted and we will have to bear with this. Actually, this does not affect our people. People do not believe in these things when they understand the true situation. This is intended for other nations, particularly European nations, whose support they are trying to retain.

We have acted drastically each time activities against the Nicaraguan Government have been detected. Every time such actions have been detected, we have acted in accordance with our laws, and the Security Ministry and other government offices can provide information on the arrests that have been made. We have seized weapons, expelled many people, and sent many to the courts.

I also want to stress, Monge said, that we have complete control over our country's territory. We are not to blame if there are areas in Nicaragua over which the government has no control and tries to blame us for its problems.

MONGE SCORES NICARAGUAN PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN

PA100204 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] We are reporting from San Rafael de Ojo de Agua on the principal events at the official inauguration of the Franscisco Jose Orlich Civil Police Academy. Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano praised Francisco Jose Orlich's idea of making a professional force out of the civil police, a public force to guarantee the free right to be a Costa Rican citizen in every way. Immoral persons attack President Monge because they cannot accept that the public force must be trained. The public security minister added that we do not need foreigners to defend our sovereignty. He said that the civil guardsman is a defender of the country's institutions, and that the Costa Rican people can have confidence in this public force.

The president said that with the example of Francisco Orlich, a man of peace and a friend of dialogue who with dedication and courage served the homeland, the Costa Rican police will never forget that their mission is to protect the citizens and maintain public order, that civilian affairs are above military affairs, and that Costa Rica found its raison d'etre in the plow and the school, not in weapons and garrisons.

High-ranking officials expect the Legislative Assembly to approve a corresponding law to guarantee job stability of policemen to prevent what is now happening every 4 years with changing administrations, when trained personnel are fired from public service.

Later the president held a news conference. He said that Costa Rica is not to blame for Nicaragua's lack of protection of its borders, since Costa Rica has complete control of its territory. This is what President Monge said:

[Begin recording] There is one fact that I wish to emphasize once more. We have complete control over our country. It is not our fault that Nicaragua has areas where the Sandinist People's Army does not have control, and we cannot accept that as a result of this situation, to which we are not contributing, we are constantly accused of being a staging area for CIA military action to help Eden Pastora's groups. There is also a tendency to insist that Eden Pastora is in Costa Rica whenever he is not in Nicaragua. We are surprised that with so many interviews of Eden Pastora in Nicaragua there is still insistence to the contrary.

Everything that is happening is very delicate. I wish to appeal to all the Costa Rican people not to wear themselves out with conjectures, rumors, and inappropriate investigations. All the Costa Rican people can rest assured that the country's government has the will to protect our sovereignty and acts with deep love for Costa Rica. There is no chance that those who have the responsibility to govern will do anything to detract from our country's dignity and sovereignty. [end recording]

President Monge added that that he is not absolutely certain that Nicaragua has not transferred heavy weapons close to the Costa Rican border near (Sibalsa). He could not assert that this is not actually happening. He is worried about the situation and the distrust that the Sandinist government is trying to create in Europe with the help of some serious, powerful, and influential U.S. newspapers.

SANDINISTS DEPLOYING ARMOR, TROOPS TO BORDER

PA092127 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1704 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] San Jose, 8 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Security Council spokesman today expressed their concern over the establishment of a Nicaraguan armored infantry base 20 km from the common border.

According to information received by the council members, the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) has transferred 150 Soviet-made tanks to Cibalsa and has deployed 5,000 infantrymen near the border. The military materiel includes 90-mm and 105-mm cannons and 82-mm and 120-mm mortar batteries. Several RPG-7 rocket launchers have also been placed very near the border.

The reinforcement of the Sandinist military posts with heavy weapons and thousands of EPS troops, and the construction of access roads to important sites in the area "herald an upcoming military action" against the forces of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE).

The Costa Rican authorities in turn have ordered the reinforcement of their border posts to safeguard Costa Rica's territorial integrity and to keep alien forces from using Costa Rican territory to fight, as this would endanger the lives of border residents.

PREPARATIONS ADVANCE FOR MEETING WITH D'ESCOTO

PA091722 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] The Security Council met at the Foreign Ministry last night. The presidency, justice, security, and government ministers, as well as Foreign Minister Carlos Gutierrez, attended the meeting, which was presided over by Second Vice President Armando Arauz Aguilar.

They discussed the need to have the Contadora Group appoint a commission of observers to visit the region of conflict in Costa Rica to gain first-hand information on what is really happening on the country's northern border.

Regarding this point, which was analyzed last night at the Security Council meeting, Foreign Minister Gutierrez has been in constant consultation with Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda and with Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, who have said that they are willing to be part of that commission of observers, Second Vice President Arauz reported.

Arauz also said that an advance group that will make preparations for the upcoming meeting between Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez and Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto will be sent to Costa Rica. They will formalize the details for the important meeting, which the Contadora Group will also attend, the second vice president reported. He explained that the advance group that will arrive Monday will review the situation and will submit a report to the Contadora Group, which will determine the place and time for the meeting. The advance group will also submit to the Contadora Group foreign ministers the procedures to be followed during the meeting.

JUSTICE MINISTER DISCUSSES NEUTRALITY, DEFENSE

PA091523 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] Costa Rican Justice Minister Hugo Alfonso Munoz yesterday afternoon said that those who believe that because Costa Rica is a neutral country it should be defenseless are wrong. Costa Rica's neutrality, as stated, also regulates its legitimate defense, in both the individual and collective aspects. The latter would be carried out through the corresponding agreements that our country has signed.

The people's defense is compatible with the country's neutrality; likewise, the country's defense is compatible with the neutrality proclaimed by President Luis Alberto Monge. Minister Munoz said that neutrality is possible for both armed and unarmed countries, though Costa Rica believes that the best way to avoid being involved in the Central American conflict is to proclaim an unarmed neutrality.

However, Minister Munoz said, this is no obstacle to modernizing our police with the intention of guaranteeing the citizens' security, nor would it be a problem if Costa Rica decided in the future that it was necessary to prepare for war situations, although this does not seem necessary for the time being. In the latter case, the principle of neutrality would not be violated because we would be acting as an attacked country and, as such, would have the legitimate right to defend ourselves.

On the topic of neutrality, the justice minister said there are two kinds of attacks on Costa Rica's position from the political viewpoint: those who say neutrality stops Costa Rica from defending itself, and those who want to see the country involved in a conflict with Nicaragua. We believe, as President Monge has asserted, that Costa Rica's involvement in foreign conflicts is highly undesirable, the justice minister said. [words indistinct] does not mean that we will fail to defend our sovereignty and principles just because we declare ourselves neutral in the other Central American countries' conflicts.

EL SALVADOR

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

ESA Threatens Journalists

PA091422 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0850 GMT 9 May 84

[By Anne Marie O'Connor]

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 9 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- A right-wing death squad has made death threats to radio journalists who report unofficial returns that favor the moderate presidential candidate in the Salvadoran presidential election.

A radio station known as Radio YSU received three threatening telephone calls yesterday from the self-styled Secret Anticommunist Army (ESA) after having given preliminary results which indicated the probable victory of Christian Democratic Party (PDC) candidate Jose Napoleon Duarte, according to employees of the radio station.

The ESA, one of the most feared death squads in El Salvador, accused the radio station personnel of "assisting the communists" and threatened to kill them if they continue to report the results, according to YSU spokesman, who asked to remain anonymous.

The radio station later suspended its broadcasts of the preliminary returns on the second runoff presidential elections between Duarte and Roberto D'Aubuisson, leader of the ultrarightwing Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) last Sunday.

For their part, electoral officials agreed not to announce partial returns as they had planned to do as of Sunday night. They based their decision on complaints by ARENA. The final vote count began last night, and electoral officials believe that they will be able to announce the name of the winner sometime this week.

Duarte has proclaimed himself the president-elect, saying he won with 55 percent of the votes in the runoff election, which became necessary after neither of the two candidates obtained the required 50-percent majority in the 25 March election.

ARENA Threatens Withdrawal

PA091718 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1550 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] [Broadcast in progress] ...in view of the decision of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, to present a special request to the Central Electoral Council [CCE] this morning in order to question the activity of Roberto Meza Delgado, a representative of the Christian Democratic Party at the CCE.

Lawyers Armando Calderon Sol and Francisco Jose Guerrero, representatives of ARENA at the CCE, noted that the arrogance, haughtiness, and irresponsible attitude of PDC representative Meza Delgado is pushing this situation too far and is leading the final stage of Sunday's 6 May process to a disaster for the international public and the Salvadoran people. If Delgado does not change his attitude, ARENA might challenge Sunday's elections and at the same time withdraw from the vote count, which began yesterday afternoon. The ARENA gentlemen are basing their request on the fact that Meza Delgado, who ignored representatives of the Patriotic Unity, which are, in this case, the representatives of the PPS [Salvadoran Popular Party] and PAISA [Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party] at the CCE, and went against the good intentions of the other four councilmen, gave himself the right, in front of television cameras last night, to declare opened the vote counting for San Salvador. This violates the Electoral Law.

Another serious charge made by ARENA leaders a few minutes ago at the party headquarters indicated that 40 ballot boxes were burned in Soyapango on Sunday, also affecting the vote count.

However, when asked where this happened and questioned about the decision to challenge the electoral process because of Meza Delgado's attitude, this was the response given by Calderon Sol, Guerrero, and Antolin de J. Castillo, one of the coordinators of the ARENA political campaign:

[Begin recording] [First unidentified speaker] Regarding the ballot boxes burned in Soyapango, we have at our computation center at the party [words indistinct]. At this center, we received the news that some ballot boxes were burned. We don't have any evidence of who did it, but we believe that the authorities have already begun an investigation and that it would be good for you to look into this, too.

In regard to President Ronald Reagan and the U.S. Senate, I don't think they have made any statement declaring anyone a winner. They couldn't do that.

If they have done it [words indistinct] and the CCE has not announced a winner [words indistinct]. The PDS is dishonest and unethical because it is circulating results and issuing them to the public when the CCE has not issued them in accordance with the legal provisions of the Electoral Law [words indistinct] this type of information which may have been picked up by President Reagan and the U.S. Senate. Simply put, it is the consequence of PDC actions. You can see that very clearly. [Passage indistinct]

[Second unidentified speaker] The violations are clear and evident as we have said. We have presented a document to the CCE demanding compliance with the law. If the Electoral Law is not complied with, then all we can do is to report this to the public and withdraw. [Applause] Our zeal for democracy [words indistinct] putting up with so many irregularities, but the time comes when out of dignity, one has to take a stand, and we are not going to put up with [word indistinct] and that the law [words indistinct]. [applause] [end recording]

D'Aubuisson Claims Victory

PA092042 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 May 84

[Statement to the news media by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, presidential candidate of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, on 9 May; place not given -- recorded]

[Text] We of ARENA have won in 10 departments. We have won [applause] in the Departments of San Miguel, Usulutan, La Union, La Paz, Chalatenango, Cuscatlan, Ahuachapan, Morazan, San Vicente, and Cabana. They, the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], has won in San Salvador, Santa Ana, La Libertad, and Sonsonate. Our winning percentage was 52 percent. They had 48 percent. [applause]

One interesting detail is that votes could not be cast in 31 municipalities. The last time we said 35 because we had no information on 4 of them. According to the Elections Council, 138,000 voters did not vote in these 31 municipalities. Another interesting detail: In the 4 departments where they won, there were 32,300 more votes in 1984 than in 1982. In the departments where they won, the voting increased from 1982 to 1984.

In the 10 departments where we won, the voting decreased by 176,000. If you add these 176,000 to the [words indistinct], there is the 20 percent, the senator [not further identified] spoke about, and in spite of this we have won. And I repeat: For the sake of the well-being of our fatherland, we will accept the vote-counting results if they are based on the law, because we know that these results will be favorable.

However, if the Elections Council, which is being managed by Meza, insists on doing the counting their own way, we will not endorse that counting, that clowning from that Mr Duarte, who as they say has been bought by the CIA to safeguard investments.

FMLN Claims Disruption

PA090447 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpts] In addition to the 94 towns in which we have reported that no elections were held, the dictatorship was unable to hold its electoral farce in the towns of Ilobasco, Cabanas Department, and in El Paisnal, in San Salvador, the very rearguard of the puppet Army. Thus, not even in that area of its rearguard was the dictatorship able to guarantee its electoral farce because of the FSLN's combat activities.

Your attention: We have been informed that clashes took place on 6 May in Mejicanos, San Salvador Department, where our urban commandos carried out various activities. They hit the dictatorship's forces in their own rearguard as they tried to guarantee the electoral farce, which is the political coverup for the imperialists' plans to intervene in our homeland. Thus, the towns in which the dictatorship was unable to hold the electoral farce total 96.

HONDURAS

TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE ON HELICOPTER INCIDENT

PA091337 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 May 84

[Press communique No 75, issued by the Foreign Secretariat in Tegucigalpa on 8 May]

[Text] The Honduran Foreign Secretariat reports to the Honduran people and the world the tragic event that took place this morning on the Gulf of Fonseca which left a toll of eight dead Hondurans. The events which preceded this tragic event are as follows:

Today, 8 May, at 0808, UH-1D helicopter No 928, which was unarmed and used for military personnel transportation, left Hernan Acosta Mejia Air Force Base in Tegucigalpa for Amapala. The helicopter carried an Armed Forces commission which was to carry out a technical inspection of the Amapala Naval Base. The personnel travelling in the aircraft were: crewmen, 2d Lieutenant Honorato Arzu and Corporal Oscar Armando Flores Amador; technical commission, Jose Napoleon Castellanos, an engineer, Alejandro Alfaro M., lawyer, Harry J. Ortiz, auditor, Roberto Turcios D., auditor, Major Hernan Barcenas, and Lieutenant Franciso Suazo A.

At 1450, Sandinist Air Force Commander Raul Denerio told Honduran Armed Forces Commander General Walter Lopez Reyes by telephone that Sandinist antiaircraft batteries in the Potosi military zone had shot down a Honduran helicopter, reportedly because it had flown over a military installation. He also reported that all those in the aircraft had died.

As soon as the Armed Forces commander received this information, he asked the Sandinist Air Force commander to authorize a Honduran Air Force commission to travel to Nicaragua to recover the bodies of the crew and the technical commission travelling in the helicopter. The return of the victims will take place today, Wednesday, 9 May.

The Honduran Government states its deep indignation at this brutal and criminal act perpetrated in times of peace by regular forces of Nicaragua against a Honduran helicopter carrying personnel that was not equipped with weapons.

The event radically contrasts with the conduct followed by the Honduran Armed Forces on 10 November 1980 when a Sandinist Air Force H-500C-type helicopter violated Honduran airspace. It was forced to land in the town of Duyure, Choluteca Department. On that occasion, the following crewmen were arrested: Captain Roberto Sanchez, pilot Ernesto Valerio, and newsman Carlos Duran Paladichini. The following weapons [as heard] were confiscated: one UZI machinegun, one 9-mm Czechoslovak machinegun, one 38-cal pistol, one camera, one hand grenade, one air navigation chart, and one map.

The helicopter and its crew were returned, unharmed, to the Nicaraguan Government after the necessary reports were prepared.

On 13 March 1982, Former Air Force Colonel Lopez Reyes, who was commander general of the Honduran Air Force, turned over to the Honorable Guillermo Suarez Rivas, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Nicaragua in Honduras, a camouflaged Douglas DC-3 C-47, No FAS-208, of the Sandinist Air Force. The airplane had landed under irregular circumstances the afternoon of 7 March at Toncontin International Airport in Tegucigalpa.

The Honduran Government expresses its deepest condolences to the relatives of the victims of this abominable attack, a dramatic expression of the Nicaraguan regime's warmongering policy.

The Honduran Government has presented its strongest protest note to the Nicaraguan Government, with copies to international organizations and the Contadora Group governments, claiming the rights granted by international law regarding application of the appropriate sanctions. The Honduran Government also last night requested the return of the bodies of the passengers killed when the helicopter was shot down by Nicaraguan antiaircraft batteries.

The protest note sent to the Nicaraguan foreign minister reads as follows:

I address Your Excellency to lodge the Honduran Government's strongest protest at the brutal shooting down of a Honduran Air Force helicopter, violating all the norms of peaceful coexistence, which resulted in the tragic loss of its crewmen and passengers. The unarmed helicopter, identified with registration UHLP No 928, was on a regular flight between Tegucigalpa and the Port of Amapala. Due to adverse atmospheric conditions over the Gulf of Fonseca, the helicopter strayed from its route. When it was returning to course toward the port of Amapala, it was shot down by Sandinist Army antiaircraft fire in the Peninsula of Cosiguina, according to the Sandinist Air Force report.

The following personnel were travelling in the aircraft: 2d Lieutenant Honorato Arzu, Corporal Oscar Armando Flores Amador, Jose Napoleon Castellanos, Alejandro Alfaro M., Harry J. Ortiz, Roberto Turcios D., Major Hernan Barcenas, and Lieutenant Francisco Suazo A.

The commission was engaged in an exclusively administrative mission, with the intention of reviewing some work being done in Amapala, and it had no intention of coming near Nicaraguan territory.

PAZ BARNICA SAYS NICARAGUA RELATIONS 'CRITICAL'

PA092238 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2100 GMT 9 May 84

[By Danilo Antunez]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica this morning met with President Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova to analyze the crisis between Honduras and Nicaragua as a result of the shooting down of a helicopter in which eight Hondurans were killed. Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica said that relations are in a very critical state and that the governments of the Central American countries, the Contadora Group, the OAS, and the United Nations have received a report on the situation.

Ambassador Withdrawn

PA092254 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2234 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 9 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government today announced that it has indefinitely withdrawn its ambassador from Nicaragua, Colonel Isidro Tapia, and accepted the possibility of an indefinite suspension of relations.

Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica this afternoon said that "the withdrawal of our ambassador in Managua will be maintained until the Sandinist government changes its criminal and warmongering attitude toward Honduras."

Paz Barnica said that "it is possible that if the Nicaraguan Government does not explain the reasons for yesterday's shooting down of an unarmed Honduran Army helicopter, killing all eight aboard, we might consider a suspension of relations with Nicaragua."

Paz Barnica spoke at the Hernan Acosta Mejia Air Force Base at the Toncontin International Airport in Tegucigalpa as he was with President Roberto Suazo Cordova, Armed Forces Chief General Walter Lopez, and other officials awaiting the arrival of the bodies of the eight Hondurans who were repatriated from Managua this afternoon.

Paz Barnica said that "for the time being we have withdrawn our ambassador to Nicaragua, and he will not return until further orders."

NICARAGUA

HONDURAN EXPLANATION OF INTRUSION REJECTED

PA092139 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2050 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpt] Managua, 9 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- Nicaragua today rejected Honduras' explanation that the Honduran helicopter that was shot down yesterday had penetrated Nicaragua's territory because of poor weather conditions.

Commander Javier Pichardo, military commander of the northern Province of Chinandega, said that weather conditions could not have forced the helicopter to stray from its route because the sky was clear in the area where Nicaraguan troops downed the helicopter yesterday. Pichardo said that the craft was apparently on a reconnaissance mission.

ORTEGA DECORATES SOLDIER FOR DOWNING HELICOPTER

PA100245 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0155 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpt] Managua, 9 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega today decorated soldier Uriel Soto Herrera for having shot down the North American-registered and manufactured helicopter carrying a crew of eight Hondurans. Soto Herrera is serving in the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] as a young man who has just entered military service, said Hugo Torres, chief of the EPS Political Section. Torres read the order issued by Defense Minister Humberto Ortega today granting the decoration.

OLYMPIC OFFICIAL SAYS PLAN TO ATTEND GAMES

PA091354 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpt] The Soviet Union has announced that it will not participate in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles because the United States cannot guarantee the security of all athletes. The Soviet decision casts doubts over the participation of other socialist states. The Olympic flame, the symbol of fraternity among sportsmen around the world, was used to light a number of torches at 0904. This marked the beginning of a trip that will take 82 days and will cover 15,000 km to reach the Olympic Games that will be held in Los Angeles. For his part, the president of the Nicaraguan Olympic Committee, CON, has announced that Nicaragua will not change its decision and will still participate in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles despite the Soviets' announcement that they will not participate in the game. He added, however, that the Nicaraguan authorities must meet to review this development.

WORKERS VOLUNTEER TO REPLACE DEAD IN ANGOLA

PA090444 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] Some 220,000 Cuban construction workers have expressed their willingness to replace their fellow citizens who were murdered in a dynamite attack in Huambo Province, Angola, it was learned at a national construction industry emulation ceremony. Pedro Fernandez, secretary general of the construction workers, added that the Cuban construction workers are willing not only to go to Angola, but to carry out internationalist missions anywhere in the world.

SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHE MARKS ANNIVERSARY

FL091110 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 May 84

[Excerpts] The Soviet Union has begun celebrating with numerous activities the 39th anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory over fascism. To mark this anniversay Captain 1st Rank Gennadiy Mikhaylov, Soviet military attache to Cuba, held a press conference.

[Began Mikhaylov recording -- Spanish] The Soviet Union is ready to talk and actively cooperate with those governments and organizations which desire to work honestly in a constructive manner toward peace. The Soviet Union sincerely proposes following only one path, that of peaceful coexistence, and the mutually beneficial path of international cooperation.

Konstantin Chernenko has underscored that both the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Union Government understand the great responsiblity they hold for the people. June 1941 will not be repeated again, and any aggressor will immediately be punished. Let everyone know this, both our friends and our foes. [end recording]

NORDIC NATIONS FORUM INAUGURATED IN HAVANA

FL091942 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1618 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpt] This morning, the International Nordic Nations Development and Cooperation Forum was opened at the Palace of Conventions in Havana. The forum was organized by the Center for West European Studies of Cuba. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the party Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, was present at the opening ceremony.

When the forum was opened, Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of the Cuban-Nordic Friendship Association, stated that the main purpose of the meeting is unrelated to any Cuban desire to achieve material gains. He stated his desire to find formulas and guidelines so that relations between the Nordic nations and Cuba will widen the field of reciprocal cooperation.

GDR ENERGY INSPECTION OFFICIAL COMPLETES VISIT

FL091338 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1107 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] With a visit to Pinar del Rio Province, Dr Boris (Gudavita), chief of the GDR's state energy inspection organ [organo de inspeccion estatal energetico], has completed his tour of Cuba, the goal of which, was strengthening Cuban-GDR cooperation in that sector. (Gudavita) visited industrial installations in Cienfuegos, Villa Clara, Santiago de Cuba, and Pinar del Rio which consume large amounts of electrical energy. During these visit he got an overall picture of the work done in these installations.

The program of his visit to Cuba also included detailing the terms of the agreement on training Cuban energy sector inspectors in the GDR. This agreement will begin to have concrete effects on 22 May, when the first four of the future specialists leave for the GDR. These four have received preparatory training.

Accompanied by Eliseo Gavilan, chief of the National Inspection Commission [Commision de Inspeccion Nacional], Boris (Gudavita) held a press conference in the offices of the Provincial Energy Commission. The press conference dealt with the wide, rich experience his country has had in its work here, and the organization of this work.

CIENFUEGOS SELECTED FOR 26 JULY CELEBRATION

FL051334 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 May 84

[Excerpt] With extraordinary joy, the people of Cienfuegos attended a mass celebration to reaffirm the pledges which made it possible for that city to win the honor of being selected as the site of this year's national ceremony commemorating 26 July. Humberto Miguel Fernandez, member of the Party Central Committee and first secretary of the party in Cienfuegos, referred to the achievements of the working class in production and services, for which the city received the honor.

U.S. SENATE SAID TO EXAMINE DEATH SQUADS, CIA

FL091206 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1107 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Washington -- The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, trained units of the Salvadoran Army which later participated in death squad activities with the knowledge of their U.S. mentors, according to THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. In an exclusive report, this daily says the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is beginning an investigation of the death squads and their relation with the CIA. The text, which quotes sources having good connections with both the U.S. Government and the Salvadoran Armed Forces, says the CIA and U.S. military advisers financed, trained, and advised special units of the Salvadoran Army. Although these units were oriented towards counterintelligence work, they later got involved with the ultrarightist death squads engaged in murdering persons suspected of cooperating with the guerrillas.

COSTA RICA REPORTEDLY RECEIVING U.S. AID

PA100007 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 May 84

[Text] Long before the border problems with Nicaragua had started, the Reagan administration was providing Costa Rica with military aid, the Costa Rican newspaper La NACION has reported. LA NACION's correspondent in Puerto Limon reported that the first shipment arrived there on 26 April. The shipment arrived in 19 military trucks, 4 small buses, and 19 small boats with 70-horsepower motors.

HONDURAN HELICOPTER DOWNED OVER NICARAGUA

PA091527 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] The anti-Sandinist [as heard] armed forces have shot down one of the two Honduran helicopters that this Tuesday entered Nicaraguan territory in the Potosi area, in Chinandega Department. The five crewmembers of the intruding helicopter died.

A note that Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto sent to his Honduran counterpart, Edgardo Paz Barnica, states that these incursions are in line with the increase in the aggression by the United States which, faced with the political and military failures of the counterrevolutionary forces, is pushing the Honduran Army into increasing involvement in anti-Nicaraguan activities. The note deplored the death of the five Honduran citizens, victims of the U.S. policy, and included an expression of sympathy for the relatives of the casualties.

FDR'S UNGO CITED ON SALVADORAN ELECTIONS

PA091531 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Salvadoran FDR President Guillermo Ungo has said in Lima that Sunday's elections in his country were a bloody farce since they were held without even a minimum of liberty. Ungo, who is in the Peruvian capital to participate in a meeting of the Socialist International Latin American Committee, said that the presidential change in El Salvador will not modify the regime's hostile attitude toward the opposition because it is the military high command that really has power in El Salvador, and the U.S. imperialist government is behind the high command.

Guillermo Ungo cautioned that Jose Napoleon Duarte, of the Christian Democratic Party, is the person best disposed to a direct intervention by the U.S. Army in El Salvador. It is not for nothing that Ronald Reagan now wants to take Duarte to Washington to present him to Congress so that Duarte -- now the alleged legitimate representative of the Salvadoran people -- may request larger U.S. military aid to fight the guerrillas, said the FDR leader.

CLASHES DURING TALLYING OF PANAMANIAN VOTES

PA090450 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 May 84

[Text] It was reported in Panama City that 1 person was killed and 36 were injured during clashes that took place outside the Legislative Palace, where the National Vote Counting Board is tallying the votes of last Sunday's presidential elections. The Valdes at Ten program on Television channel 2 said last night that four persons had been killed, but this has not been confirmed. The incidents began when individuals dressed in caps and T-shirts with opposition insignias caused disturbances by breaking windows and looting shops on Central Avenue. At the same time, a group with banners from the Christian Democratic Party, which is part of Arnulfo Arias Madrid's coalition, provoked sympathizers of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, which is led by presidential candidate Nicolas Ardito Barletta.

Incumbent President Jorge Illueca expressed concern over the incidents, saying that they disrupt public peace and national coexistence. The cabinet was called into an urgent session today by the president to assess the situation.

DE LA MADRID ADDRESSES CANADIAN PARLIAMENT

PA091601 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid has warned of the threat of a grave nuclear crisis and deplored the economic crisis that is disturbing the international environment.

De la Madrid, who is on an official 3-day visit to Canada, has said at the Canadian Parliament that it is necessary to establish a new type of continental relationship to favor genuine paths of cooperation and solidarity.

In his speech De la Madrid referred to the Contadora Group initiative and explained that the Central Americans have the unavoidable commitment ot return to stability and to strengthen what has been a centuries-old tradition of unity.

Regarding bilateral Canadian-Mexican relations, De la Madrid said that they respond to long-term political and economic interests, similar political concepts, coinciding values, and complementary economies.

During an interview, De la Madrid and Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau analyzed the Central American crisis and reaffirmed their position in favor of accepting political pluralism in the region.

COMMENTARY ON PROBLEMS IN CARIBBEAN STATES

PA091436 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 8 May 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] The recent popular demonstrations in the Dominican Republic have had repercussions in other Caribbean states, particularly in Jamaica, where the economic situation is deteriorating by leaps and bounds.

The police clampdown on the Dominican Republic popular uprising to press for economic demands left a toll of over 100 dead, hundreds of people wounded, and hundreds of people arrested. According to news reports, Santo Domingo still smells of gunpower. Many homes are in mourning. The suppressed wrath of the population lingers in the minds of the working masses. As some union leaders assert, the last word has not yet been heard. The government of President Salvador Jorge Blanco is trying to recover from the popular protests through makeshift formulas. The effectiveness of Blanco's administration has been left in question by the magnitude of the economic crisis, worsened by the agreement signed a short time ago with the IMF, which contemplates an expanded loan of $459 million. This agreement has further increased the cost of living in the Dominican Republic, which was already untenable.

A similar situation prevails in Jamaica, which is waiting for an already delayed contingency loan from the IMF for $180 million. The vaults of the Jamaican Central Bank are almost empty because of a severe lack of foreign exchange. For months, popular marches have been held in Kingston, the capital, against the economic policy of the conservative government headed by Prime Minister Edward Seaga, who has been described as the most docile of the United States' unconditional allies in the Caribbean. After 3 and 1/2 years as head of government, Seaga holds a monopoly of executive and legislative power on the island by virtue of the elections that were held ahead of schedule in December, in which no opposition organization participated.

The IMF has reproached Seaga for his deficient financial management, which results from his inability to govern despite the assistance he receives from IMF advisers. The shadow of the IMF also looms over the jobs of thousands of public servants, who face the threat of mass dismissals under the pretext of reducing the deficit in the current government budget. Jamaica has a chronic unemployment rate of 28 percent, with a labor force estimated at a little over 1 million workers. The national economy is rapidly collapsing, with no hope of a prompt recovery.

VIOLENCE, UNION UNREST REPORTED IN PERU

PA071415 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 84

[Text] One policeman has died as a result of an attack by an armed commando from the town of Vischongo, Ayacucho Department. In the town of Huanta, in the same region, a journalist has been kidnapped. According to news reports, two armed men killed agent Alberto Castillo after waiting for him in his room. (Fedor Pavel), journalist in charge of a Huanta radio station, was captured in his home by a marine patrol, his relatives have charged.

The General Confederation of Peruvian Workers has warned that there will be street demonstrations unless the current wave of dismissals ends. According to official report 20,000 persons have already been fired from their jobs. Meanwhile, the National Confederation of Workers has urged the government to issue a temporary law preventing dismissals until the new law on labor stability is passed.

Senator (Edmundo Marrubarra) has accused the United States of giving economic aid to the Peruvian Government to prevent an eventual victory of the United Left coalition in the general elections of 1985. The senator, who is a member of this coalition, claimed that a recent $60 million AID loan to Peru represents a Washington decision to turn around the current trend that favors a leftist elections victory.

March 'Violently Dispersed'

PA052145 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 May 84

[Text] The Peruvian police have violently dispersed a demonstration by 15,000 construction workers who were marching toward the Labor Ministry to present their annual document of demands and by hundreds of miners who were demanding payment of back wages. EL DIARIO MARKA said that the police repression resulted in many injuries and in one arrest In a similar demonstration on Thursday, 250,000 construction workers insisted on a wage increase, labor stability, and other demands.

Meanwhile, the fourth period of Andean Pact sessions is being held in Lima. The members have stressed the need to create a common Latin American front to deal with the region's foreign debt and the voracity of the IMF. Edgar Camacho, coordinator of the Cartagena Agreement's board, made note of the critical situation affecting the Andean Pact nations and said that the organization should not be subjected pressure from interests that are petty when compared to Latin America's common interests.

OUTLAWED URUGUAYAN CRITICIZES MILITARY PROPOSAL

PA060401 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, the outlawed leader of the National [Blanco] Party of Uruguay, has said in Buenos Aires that the latest military proposal to the three authorized Uruguayan political parties is unacceptable. The proposal, he noted, was not an offer but an imposition. The political leader said that it is offensive to the Uruguayan people for the military regime to offer November elections to those who accept an agreement with them. The Uruguayan Armed Forces made a number of proposals that would virtually preclude any parliamentary decisionmaking in the government that is to be elected in November.

Meanwhile, Uruguayan Interior Minister General Julio Rapela accused the National Party of trying to destabilize the government and to prevent elections in the absence of its leader, Ferreira Aldunate, whose political rights have been suspended.

URUGUAYAN MINISTER ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

PA071505 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 84

[Text] Uruguayan Interior Minister General Julio Cesar Rapela, retired, has stated that the Uruguayan Armed Forces are not prepared to accept a return to the situation of 1973, which motivated the military intervention. Speaking at an official ceremony in the Uruguayan city of Salto, Rapela said that all the steps for presidential elections in September [as heard] are being taken and that the Armed Forces have prepared a political plan to be discussed with the parties.

The National [Blanco] Party has rejected the plan, calling it unacceptable. Today this party began to secure signatures supporting demands for a plebiscite on eliminating all the emergency measures that have been in effect in Uruguay since 1973. Leaders of that opposition party have said that they expect to have by 25 May a minimum of 220,000 signatures, the number needed to convoke a plebiscite, according to the Uruguayan Constitution.

URUGUAYAN OPPOSITION TO TRY TO REPEAL MEASURES

PA061607 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 May 84

[Text] Despite the regime's threats, Uruguay's National [Blanco] Party will begin a signature-collecting campaign on Sunday to demand a plebiscite to repeal all the emergency measures that have been in effect in Uruguay since 1973. Party leaders have said that they intend to gather the minimum 220,000 signatures stipulated in the 1967 Constitution to call a plebiscite.

An official communique issued this week in Uruguay warned that the Constitution cannot be invoked to repeal government actions or situations not included therein and accused the National Party of promoting popular mobilization to destabilize the country. The leaders of the National Party and other opposition political groups rejected the accusation, calling it ridiculous and inane.

Other reports note that (Raul Fernando) Sendic, the son of Raul Sendic, leader of the Tupamaros liberation movement who has been in prison for more than 10 years, will travel to Montevideo on Saturday. The leader's son, who will go to Uruguay with a delegation of Brazilian political leaders, said in Rio de Janeiro that he hopes that his visit will help obtain his father's release and that of all the other Uruguayan political prisoners

COMMENTARY ON URUGUAYAN POLITICAL SITUATION

PA041957 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 2 May 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] While the Uruguayan military regime increases military measures and tries to neutralize the electoral boycott promoted by the traditional National [Blanco] Party, the meeting by all the opposition political parties to coordinate activities and face th Uruguayan dictatorship has emerged as an important event.

Repression has increased and antipopular actions have been carried out in the country's interior. Some people were arrested in the town of San Javier. One of the arrested persons, Dr (Vladimir Roslik, was delivered dead to his relatives the next day. This murder, which has taken place at a particularly delicate political moment, called attention once again to the abuses committed by the regime, and the people were very upset.

Recently, the Uruguayan Interior Ministry affirmed that there will be elections in November. It said that the government is studying the rehabilitation of some political parties and leaders, but added that the Communist Party; the president of the Broad Front, Liber Seregni; and the leader of the National Party, Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, are not being considered.

In addition to these unacceptable electoral limitations, there are the official obstacles that impede a useful dialogue between the opposition parties and the regime. General Gregorio Alvarez, boss of the Uruguayan military dictatorship, recently said in this regard that the Armed Forces want to maintain the National Security Council as an organization of the Executive Branch specializing in security and the protection of sovereignty. Another step taken by the Uruguayan military to counteract the opposition's electoral boycott has been the approval of a bill negatively modifying the 1982 law on political parties.

These are the reasons why the meeting held by representatives of all the political parties of Uruguay, both legal and illegal, to establish the basis for agreements to approach the elections is so important. The meeting, which was called by Liber Seregni to overcome the big differences that emerged in the past few weeks between Colorado and Blanco Party leaders -- differences that weakened the opposition front -- has succeeded in securing a decision that a new meeting will be called after the participants at this meeting report on it to their respective organizations.

COMMENTARY ON INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY IN L.A.

PA041259 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 3 May 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] May 1, International Labor Day, was commemorated with massive demonstrations in almost all capitals and main cities of Latin America. The celebration by the world proletariat constituted in the subcontinent a new demonstration of the anti-imperialist feeling of the peoples of our America and a reaffirmation of the ever-more-evident unity of all workers who struggle for their just social, political, and economic demands.

In addition, during the 1 May comme orations the growing fear felt by the area's dictatorial regimes of the growing force of organized workers was demonstrated. The repression unleashed against workers' parades and demonstrations confirmed this.

In Lima, the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers urged the fulfillment of the demands presented during the general strike carried out 22 March, and two large gatherings were held in response to calls from the leading Peruvian labor unions. Other massive demonstrations were carried out on 1 May in Bolivia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and other Latin American countries, where workers presented their social and economic demands and expressed their solidarity with the Salvadoran and Nicaraguan peoples, who are victims of U.S. military intervention.

As expressed by the region's press and political organizations, the events held in Latin America on 1 May are a warning for the continent's repressive governments to be aware that the peoples of our America are becoming more and better organized all the time, preparing to wage their big battle for their political and economic independence.

JORGE CRITICAL OF STRIKE, URGES DIALOGUE

PA091755 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0442 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 8 May (EFE) -- Domincan President Salvador Jorge Blanco announced tonight that the 24-hour general strike called for tomorrow by five labor unions is an attack on the constitutional government that he heads.

In a radio and television speech to the nation, Jorge Blanco invited all the democratic political forces to set aside party interests and join in upholding public liberties and respect for human rights as the only true national interest.

However, Jorge Blanco strongly stated that the political stability and institutional order of the Domincan people will be safeguarded.

The president said that he is concerned about the pain and mourning that would be suffered by Dominican families if there were new tragic incidents in tomorrow's strike, and he made the organizers of the strike -- announced for 0600 (1000 GMT) -- responsible.

Jorge Blanco said his government has conducted several activities seeking to prevent the general strike in an effort to "raise the awareness" of the strike organizers that this is a time that should not be one of violence, but of dialogue and unity.

The Army ordered the militarization of the capital today, and soldiers and policemen have been posted in strategic places and principal avenues of Santo Domingo, as well as at the entry points to the city from the eastern part of the country.

Furthermore, the national police yesterday arrested several political, peasant, and labor leaders in this capital and other cities of the country.

The president stressed it is necessary to strengthen Dominican institutional order, which only a certain minority that he did not identify seeks to disrupt.

He said that a national strike would only have negative consequences for the Dominican Republic, such as a decline in public and private activities, reduction in revenues, and limitation of government services to the citizens.

MAIN UNIONS MILITARIZED IN NORTHWEST PROVINCE

FL091310 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] The governor of Santiago Rodriguez Province has said that everything is under control in the province. The government has militarized the principal labor unions in northwestern Domincan Republic. A special watch has also been imposed between Mao City and Santiago Rodriguez City. This measure was imposed after a meeting between civil and military officials from the northwestern part of the country in the provincial capital Sabaneta, Santiago Rodriguez Province. The commander of the 9th [words indistinct] Munitions Battalion, government officials, and the Santiago Rodriguez' Dominican Revolutionary Party members were also at the meeting.

MEXICO'S OIL PRICE INCREASE TO AFFECT NATION

FL091132 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 2 May 84 pp 1, 13

[By Jose Romero]

[Text] Mexico's oil price increase implies an increase of some $2.4 million that the Dominican Republic will have to pay in the course of 1 year.

President of the Dominican Petroleum Refinery Leopoldo Espaillat Nanita said this price increase will directly affect business.

Espaillet Nanita said Mexico's price increase contradicts market trends. He added that Mexican officials said that because banks had increased interest rates, they were forced to increase the price of oil. He said that, in this way, the Dominican Republic will be paying the consequences of another's actions. Espaillet Nanita added that this Mexican measure is an attempt to force market trends.

He said the Dominican Petroleum Refinery had received offers of light petroleum from other sources, but that, unfortunately, this situation could occur again because of the country's dependency on oil imports.

Mexico increased the price of crude oil, mainly heavy weight, by 50 cents. This affects some 4.4 million barrels per day which the Dominican Republic buys from Mexico. The price increase affects all beneficiary countries of the San Jose Accord. Thus, heavy crude Maya oil will be sold at $25.50 per barrel, and light Isthmus oil will remain the same at $29 per barrel. It was hoped that this increase would not affect countries under the San Jose Accord.

ITALY'S ENEL SIGNS COOPERATION AGREEMENT

FL041816 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 26 Apr 84 p 5

[By Tulio Navarrete]

[Excerpts] Last night, Italy and the Dominican Republic renewed a technical cooperation agreement in which the Dominican Electricity Corporation [CDE] will be able to improve electrical service to the Dominican people. The new agreement will further strengthen the relations which began in 1977 between the National Electric Power Agency [Ente Nacional para Energia Electrica], ENEL, of Italy and the CDE.

The agreement was signed at 6:30 pm in a ceremony held at the Italian Embassy, Santo Domingo. Engineer Marcelo Jorge, CDE administrator, signed for the CDE and Dr Fabio Fittipaldi, chief executive of ENEL, for Italy. Both spoke during the ceremony.

Dr Fittipaldi said Italy will continue to contribute the great experience it has acquired in the energy field, just as it has been doing since 1977, "especially in the field of design of hydroelectric plants, and it is about to expand its assistance to the operation and maintenance of the thermoelectric plants, personnel training, and the commercial organization of energy distribution services."

To facilitate the initiation of these new services as soon as possible, technical meetings of CDE and ENEL personnel at CDE headquarters will begin in the next few days.

CDE Administrator Marcelo Jorge said that, in its first stage, the agreement helped the CDE Hydroelectric Development Directorate carry out the engineering studies for the Rio Blanco hydroelectric project, which will generate 108 million kilowatts. This project, he said, will be built near the town of Bonao.

GRENADA

BISHOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL CALLS FOR SOLIDARITY

AU071115 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 5 May 84 pp 1, 7

[Interview with Don Rojas from Grenada by Oldrich Pospisil: "Grenada Will Not Reconcile Itself to Occupation; Talk With Maurice Bishop's Collaborator"; date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] Don Rojas, a guest from Grenada, is currently staying in our country. He was both witness to, and a significant participant in, the more than 4 years of free development of this island country in the Caribbean, as well as witness to the insidious aggression of the United States, whose military units occupied Grenada in October. Don Rojas was press secretary to the top Grenadian representative, Maurice Bishop. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) and the organization's regional secretary for the Caribbean area. On the occasion of his current visit to Czechoslovakia, he granted an interview to our RUDE PRAVO correspondent.

[Pospisil] How could you characterize the "order" that the U.S. invaders are imposing in Grenada?

[Rojas] They are striving to achieve it by various means. Practically every day the U.S. ambassador dictates instructions for Governor Scoon and his "temporary" puppet government? It is a diktat that involves the military, "security," economic, and political spheres. All the economic and social programs of Bishop's popular government -- which represented considerable material and spiritual achievement for the Grenadian working people -- have been liquidated. As a consequence of this U.S. policy, many Grenadian have lost their jobs (unemployment already affects 33 percent of the population of productive age). The activists of the New Jewel Movement and the protagonists of the popular government who were working in the public of civil services have been literally thrown out of their working places. Hundreds of progressive Grenadians have been arrested and tortured. The U.S. invaders also exercise strict control over the mass media, abusing them for spreading lies and misinformation about Maurice Bishop and the Grenada revolution. Apart from that, the false propaganda in Grenada is also disseminated by a special U.S. Army unit for psychological operations.

[Pospisil] In what way are the people showing their resistance?

[Rojas] Hundreds of U.S. soliders and smaller military units of several island states in the Caribbean are occupying our country. But even under these extremely unfavorable conditions, the working people of Grenada are expressing their aversion to the installed regime. Mainly the young people are systematically and comprehensively telling the invaders: Americans, Go Home! We want to have Grenada free and independent again! The Grenadian patriots are demanding full respect for the people's right of self-determination, they are demanding that the social and economic programs of Bishop's revolutionary government continue to be realized. Even the experts in public opinion polls from the United States and Trinidad have come to the conclusion -- after studying a research project in Grenada -- that at least 84 percent of the entire population rejects both Governor Scoon and former Prime Minister Gairy, and that most Grenadians are in favor of the return of the revolutionary New Jewel Movement.

Apart from other things, the resistance against the invaders is manifested in the extensive, albeit nonpublic, distribution of patriotic papers, above all, the INDIES TIMES, which is edited by progressive Grenadian journalists. The U.S. invaders are trying to liquidate this paper. Thousands of people are wearing T-shirts with a portrait of Maruice Bishop who, as you know, was killed during the military putsch last October. In Grenada, broad support is also enjoyed by the recently established Maurice Bishop October 19, 1983 Martyrs Foundation, as well as by the appeal to call the new international airport -- its construction should be concluded toward the end of this year -- Maurice Bishop Airport.

[Pospisil] The invaders and their puppet government are currently preparing the trial of a number of well-known Grenadian figures who were arrested....

[Rojas] In the meantime, many of them are being tortured and denied their right of legal defense and other legal rights. Undoubtedly, the Americans and their Grenadian puppets are interested not only in convicting Coard and Austin, but above all in discrediting Bishop's Popular Revolutinary Government and the Grenadian revolution in general. But since the American presence in our country is completely illegal, and since the administration of their henchman, Scoon, in no way expresses the people's will, they in fact have no right to stage such a trial. Only the people of Grenada have the right to apply revolutionary legality against those who are to be blamed for the murder of Maurice Bishop and his comrades.

[Pospisil] Could you be more specific in explaining the reasons behind Maurice Bishop's assassination?

[Rojas] Both Bishop and a group of ministers of the revolutionary government and of trade union representatives were brutally murdered by a group of several New Jewel Movement figures and Army officers who were highly ambitious for power. They decided to wrest power from Bishop's hands -- he was supported by 95 percent of the Grenadian population. These people were extremists, who strove to conceal their terrorism by ultra leftist terminology. But the fact is that the true socialists, the true Marxists-Leninists, were Bishop and the others who were killed. By their actions, the murderers, extremists like Pol Pot, actually provided the North American imperialists with a "pretext" for invading Grenada. Only history will prove whether this killer clique had contacts with the CIA, or not.

[Pospisil] How would you characterize the tasks of patriots, revolutionaries, and all progressive people of Grenada?

[Rojas] First, we must draw the proper conclusions from the events of October 1983, so that such mistakes are never repeated. Second, we must strengthen our unity. Third, we must demand, and fight for, the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all foreign military units from Grenada, and for full respect for Grenada's independence. Fourth, we must demand an end to the entire violation of human rights in Grenada and to the trampling of these rights underfoot. At the same time, we expect all the friends, patrons [priznivci], and people sympathizing with the Grenadian Revolution, particularly in the socialist countries, to continue their solidarity with our country.

[Pospisil] Thank you for the interview.

BISHOP SUPPORTERS' NEWSPAPER PRINTING BLOCKED

FL071716 Bridgetown CANA in English 1808 GMT 5 May 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, May 5 (CANA) -- The publishers of a small weekly newspaper aligned to supporters of slain Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop said today they were making "alternative arrangements" to have the tabloid back in the streets next week after the authorities blocked production of this week's issue at a government-owned printery. The development, reported by George Louison, a leading member of the Maurice Bishop Memorial Foundation, came a week after the interim government threatened to take tough action against unidentified newspapers it said were being published in contravention of the nation's laws.

The government stated that before a paper could be published, the owners were required by law to file a statutory declaration with the Surpeme Court Registrar and place a bond of 1,000 dollars (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) to help meet damages in case the paper is sued for libel. "As of May 4, 1984, INDIES TIMES has complied with all the provisions of the newspaper ordinance and is therefore legally entitled to publish its newspaper," Louison, who served as agriculture minister in Bishop's ousted leftist government, told CANA. "We regret any inconvenience caused to our readers and we will appear on the streets without fail next week." The 12-page tabloid was to have made its fifth appearance today. Circulation is estimated at around 2,500.

Louison said officials at the state-run West Indian Publishing Company said they had received instructions from the Government to cease printing the paper until they were advised to start again. INDIES TIMES is one of several newspapers that have appeared in Grenada since last October's U.S.-led invasion, triggered by Bishop's murder in a military coup, put an end to a Marxist experiment. Under Bishop's rule, the only authorised newspaper was the state-owned FREE WEST INDIAN.

JAMAICA

POLITICAL VIOLENCE CLAIMS 7 LIVES IN KINGSTON

FL092138 Bridgetown CANA in English 2012 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 9 (CANA) -- At least seven people have been shot dead and one wounded since yesterday when intragang political warfare broke out in the volatile western slums of the Jamaica capital, according to newspaper reports today. The morning daily, the GLEANER, said that two men died and one was wounded early yesterday in the first round of clashes. The EVENING STAR newspaper said that despite a [words indistinct]. More bodies were [words indistinct].

The Police Information Centre (PIC), the official source for security information, has so far not released an official report on the matter.

According to the GLEANER, the fighting is mainly between elements from the ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) strongholds of Tivoli Gardens and an area in nearby Wilton Gardens, called Rema. The paper said the disturbance erupted because Rema gang members, disenchanted with the JLP, attempted to join up with elements from a nearby area of Arnett Gardens, locally called Concrete Jungle and a stronghold of the opposition People's National Party. Apparently, the Tivoli gang would not allow the defection, which was seen as a threat to the conservative JLP power in that down section of Kingston, the GLEANER reported.

SECURITY MINISTER ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE LEAKAGE

FL092154 Bridgetown CANA in English 2038 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 9 (CANA) -- A leakage of scarce foreign exchange is having a severe impact on Jamaica's already hardpressed economy and could be alleviated with the cooperation of U.S. law enforcement agencies, National Security Minister Winston Spaulding has said here. The leakage has considerable impact on the economic, social, and, by extension, the criminal life of the country. Spaulding told a meeting of the Police Management Association's international annual conference in the north coast town of Ocho Rios. The PMA (?comprises) police officers in the United States.

Spaulding siad that under Jamaican laws, it was illegal to export or import Jamaican currency because "this is the basis for substantial leakage of foreign exchange." But the minister said that people, for profit, took it out to sell, contrary to the country's exchange control laws.

He said that they conspired with others abroad to sell the Jamaican dollar to tourists and other persons coming to Jamaica, so that they could bring it back here in exchange for the U.S. dollars which they retained abroad. The effect of this conspiracy, of course, is to put great pressure on the Jamaican economy and rob the country of vital dollar [words indistinct] development and the achievement of stability," he said. "This attractive and hamrless-looking crime is, therefore having a considerable harmful impact on the country," he added.

Illegal export of currency is an area for mutual cooperation and exchange of information and ultimate law enforcement between Jamaica and the USA, Spaulding said.

Spaulding said the international trafficking of drugs was another area where cooperation was essential if we are not to be hapless victims of external factors and pressures which continue to influence criminality internationally, directly and indirectly, within the two countries.

The minister stated that the money power of international contacts and organisational skills of trans-national narcotics syndicates were used to corrupt countries experiencing chronic and acute economic and social problems to become feeding-grounds for their socially destructive money-spinning schemes. "Some of this wealth," the minister noted, "May, itself, not only be used to perpetuate further criminal activities, but the traffic and use of these narcotics contribute to crime and social instability in various jurisdictions."

"As if this nightmare is not enough, we have the added dimension in which the intelligence and drug-enforcement agencies of the USA now confirm the involvement of ideologically-motivated forces in using this area as part of the hemispheric political weapon to adversely influence the U.S. national interest," the security minister declared.

ST CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS

BRIEFS

NEW INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER -- Basseterre, St Kitts, May 3 (CANA) -- India's High Commissioner to St Kitts and Nevis, P.P.D'Souza, was meeting government officials today after presenting his credentials to Governor General Sir Clement Arrindell. D'Souza will leave for his home base, Trinidad and Tobago on Saturday. [Excerpts] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2325 GMT 3 May 84 FL]

BOLIVIA

COB HOLDS MEETING, REJECTS LECHIN'S RESIGNATION

PY090333 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpt] The national assembly of the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] went into recess after a 4-hour uninterrupted meeting. The meeting will be resumed tomorrow at 0900 in the headquarters of the Teachers Union. Some of the decisions made by the assembly may include the following: The miners and bank workers will demand that the government, particularly the president, define its position and state whether it is on the side of the workers or private enterprise. The bank workers have asked for the resignation of the entire government economic team.

During the meetings several proposals were submitted. Some sectors wanted to break up the dialogue with the government while others expressed the need to continue with it. The COB national assembly also decided to confirm Juan Lechin Oquendo as COB executive secretary. Oscar Sanjines, COB secretary general, announced that the COB meeting will continue tomorrow.

[Begin recording] [Sanjines] The debate will be resumed with several speakers tomorrow at 0900. This assembly will undoubtedly give an appropriate answer to the desires of the Bolivian people and particularly to the organized labor class.

[Question indistinct]

[Sanjines] Regarding Lechin, his resignation has been rejected. The COB assembly wants Lechin to continue heading the COB and the Bolivian labor struggle. He will be invited to head this assembly. We hope he will be here tomorrow.

[Unidentified reporter] Has the committee given an answer?

[Sanjines] According to Victor Lopez, fellow worker Lechin should have been here already but according to Armando Morales, Lechin will be here with us tomorrow. [end recording]

COLOMBIA

BETANCUR APPOINTS NEW JUSTICE MINISTER

PA091815 Paris AFP in Spanish 1810 GMT 8 May 84

[Excerpts] Bogota, 8 May (AFP) -- President Belisario Betancur today appointed Liberal Senator Enrique Parejo Gonzalez, 54, as the new justice minister. He replaces Rodrigo Lara, who was assassinated 1 week ago in Bogota.

Parejo Gonzalez, who is among the New Liberalism dissidents, upon accepting the post after a 40-minute meeting with Betancur said that he will "continue the campaign against the drug trafficking mafia."

The new minister will take office this coming Tuesday.